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CHRYSA L:

OR, THE

ADVENTURES

OF A

G U I N E A.

WHEREIN ARE EXHIBITED

VIEWS of several striking SCENES:

WITH

Curious and interesting ANECDOTES of the
most Noted Persons in every rank of Life,
whose hands it passed through,

IN

AMERICA, ENGLAND, HOLLAND,
GERMANY AND PORTUGAL.

—Hold the Mirror up to Nature,
To shew Vice its own image, Virtue its own Likeness,
And the very Age and Body of the Times
His form and Pressure. SHAKESPEARE.

Qui capit, ille facit.

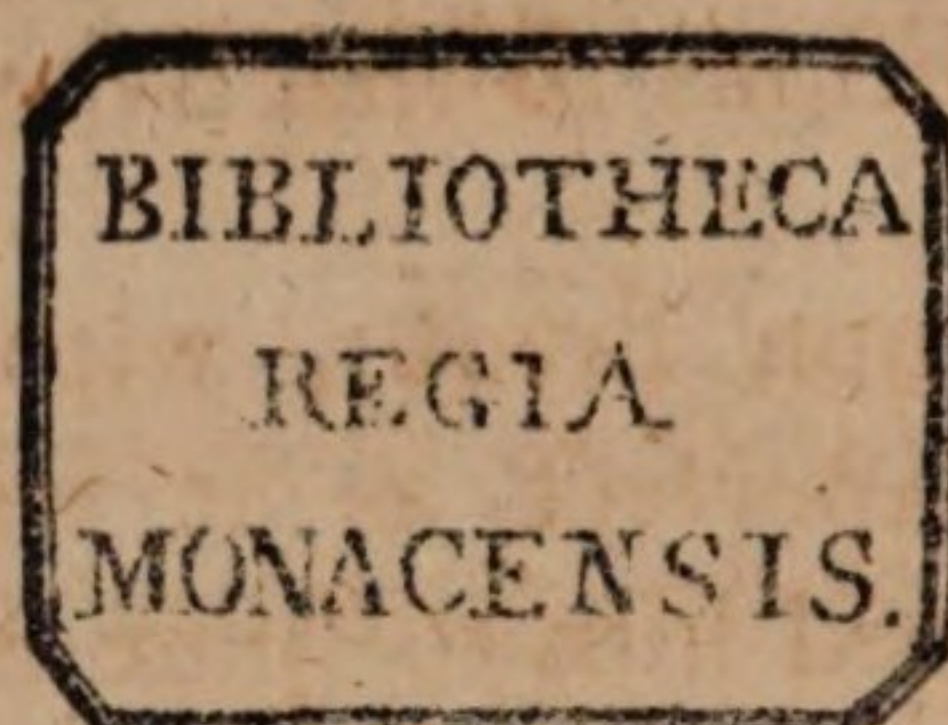
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VOL. III.

L O N D O N:

Printed for J. WATSON, M. PEARCE, S. LEWIS,
G. LONGMAN, and W. CROWDER.

M DCC LXXV.





Advertisement.

THE circumstances in which THE ADVENTURES OF A GUINEA fell into the hands of the Editor, as explained in the General Preface, accounts for this, and the former Additions to that Work.

THE uncommon favour, with which the first Edition, imperfect as it was, was received, encouraged him to spare no pains for the recovery of the rest of the Manuscript: Though his success however in this attempt exceeded his expectations, fear of the prejudice, in general too justly, entertained against *Continuations*, prevented his publishing, in the Second Edition, any more of what he had recovered, than could be added without enhancing the price. But as the sale of so many numerous impressions, since that Addition, has entirely removed every shadow of such fear, he thinks it would be injustice to the Public to withhold the rest from them any longer.

As to the objection made to *Continuations*, that they are written after the first design is compleated, and when the imagination is

ADVERTISEMENT.

exhausted, it can by no means effect the following sheets, which are really *a Restitution of the Original*, not an Addition of any thing new; as will plainly appear to the judicious Reader, who will find the same scope of imagination, the same spirited freedom, and depth of remark in every period of these Volumes, which so eminently distinguished the former; and trace the genuine connection through the whole.

FOR one great disadvantage, which these Volumes lie under, Candour will make the just allowance, when the occasion of it is considered.

THIS is the Printing of these Parts, thus detached, and by themselves, with only references to the places, where they follow in the Context of the former Volumes; by which means they lose the advantage of the general Fable, or as I may say, *Machine*, which so happily introduces and supports the whole, and of which no more could be recovered; all, but what was at first published, being cancelled by the Orthodoxy of the pretended Clergyman, into whose hands the Manuscript unfortunately fell, who spared no more than was indispensibly necessary to open the design *.

* See the general Preface.

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HAD the Editor attended solely to his own interest, it would have suggested to him to have published this, as he did the former Edition, inserted regularly according to the Connection; as the established reputation of the Work would ensure the sale of the whole, even to those, who had before purchased the former Volumes. But this was an artifice he was incapable of using; and he chose to publish these Volumes in this manner, rather than incur the least suspicion of so mercenary a design. He hopes therefore, that a disadvantage occasioned by such a delicate disinterestedness will not be looked upon as a defect; and that the whole will be viewed together, before any part is accused of abruptness, or want of uniformity to the general design.

THE absurdity, and injustice of levelling the general reproof of vice, against particular Persons, and tracing to real characters a work of mere imagination, are too glaring to require proof. Mr. *Addison*, in the instance he has given in one of his *Spectators*, of *the whole Duty of Man*, has shewn that the best book that ever was written (humanly speaking) is liable to be construed into a scandalous libel, by such a *Perversion*.

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THE Editor of this Work has the satisfaction to see that whatever injurious attempts of that kind were at first made against it, they have not been able to prejudice it in the opinion of the Public, as appears from the great and continued demand for it, for so many years. Defamation may please the malignancy of Man for a day; but it must be merit that can stand the test of time. Such insinuations are long since forgot, because unsupported by truth; as will all of the same nature, which may be made against the Volumes now offered to the Public, while the merit of them shall remain for the entertainment and instruction of ages.

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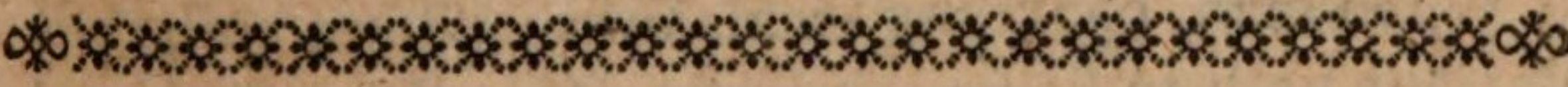
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CHRYSA L:

OR, THE
ADVENTURES

OF A
GUINEA.



CHAP. I.

Introduction. CHRYSA L enters into a new service. His master finds an ingenious excuse for returning home ; but is unexpectedly stopt short by the way. In the common course of business, CHRYSA L changes his service : Character of his new master.

(THERE being a war between SPAIN and ENGLAND, CHRYSA L in the shape of a DOUBLGON, is presented by a SPANISH governor to the captain of an ENGLISH Man of War cruising off the coast of MEXICO, in return for his quitting his station to give him an opportunity of sending the treasure to EUROPE.

“ As this was a compliment of great consequence
“ to the Spaniards, the captain had been so hand-
“ somely considered for it, that his desires were satis-
“ fied, and he only wished to be safe at home to en-
“ joy the wealth he had so happily acquired.”

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However impatient though he might be to return, it was necessary for him to find some pretence to justify a conduct so contrary to his duty, the time appointed by his superiors for continuing on that station, not being near expired.

But a proper knowledge of the world is never at a loss for expedients. He immediately came to a right understanding with the master of the ship, who alarming him suddenly at midnight with an account that her *stern-post* was loose, and the rest of the officers between sleeping and waking formally signing his report without examining, he *bore away* directly for home with an happy heart, anticipating in imagination the enjoyment of all those pleasures, which he had hitherto looked at with a longing eye from a distance.

When man, confiding in his own wisdom, quits the straight path to strike out a nearer to his wishes, he generally blunders into that which leads directly to disappointment. My master had not proceeded many days on his voyage, when he *fell in* one morning just at the dawn, with a mighty fleet, from which it was impossible for him to escape. His anxiety made him instantly conclude them enemies. He cursed his fate in the bitterness of his soul, and leaving the care of the ship to his officers, pretended to be sick, and threw himself on his bed in agonies little short of despair. “ Was it for this ? (exclaimed he wringing his hands, “ and gnashing his teeth) “ was it for this I betrayed “ my trust, and favoured the enemies whom I was “ sent to distress ?—For this did I put my honour in “ the power of a venal wretch, and desert my station, “ in direct disobedience to my orders ? But I am justly “ rewarded ! I have stopped at nothing to gather “ wealth, and now I lose that and my liberty together. May every villain meet the same fate !”

But the severity of his distress lasted not long. As soon as it was clear day, the fleet which caused his

fears was found to be English; the moment he was informed of which he recovered from his sickness, and putting the best face he could upon the matter went to wait upon the Admiral.

Though the fleet which the Admiral commanded was irresistibly superior to any that could possibly be opposed to it, he was so desirous of every addition of strength, that he received my master with evident pleasure; and never enquiring what had been the cause of his quitting his station, informed him whither they were going, and congratulated him on the opportunity he should have of making his fortune.

But this opportunity, promising as it might appear, had no temptations for my master, whose thoughts were turned another way. However, to carry off the chagrin which he could not conceal, he expressed his concern in the strongest terms at not being able to bear a part in so glorious an enterprize, and produced the *report* of the condition of his ship, by which she was represented to be incapable of service, the reason, as he alledged, for his having quitted his proper station. This instantly changed the whole scene. The Admiral assuming all the consequence of his unbounded authority, answered with a supercilious look, that he would order the ship to be surveyed by the proper officers, and then turned away without deigning to take any farther notice of him.

As this was no more than my master had expected, his knowledge of the world, which brought him into the scrape, soon suggested the proper means for preventing any disagreeable consequences from it. Accordingly, when the *survey* was regularly made next morning, he was *honourably* acquitted; but the master of the ship was broke for his error, and the other officers severely rebuked, for not having examined his report before they signed it.

In the course of these transactions, I changed my service for that of the Admiral's *Agent for his own private affairs*, who directly gave me to the Admiral in some dealings between them.

When I entered into the possession of my new master, he was lolling in a listless manner on a sofa, in his *state-room*, where every art was exerted to counteract nature, and elude the mid-day heat, in one of the fiercest climates of the Torrid Zone. A gown of thinnest silk hung loosely over his large limbs; the radiance of the Sun was softened by shades of linen drawn before the open windows, and kept constantly wet to cool the air as it entered through them; and every disagreeable flavour was drowned in the most delicate perfumes.

The contrast between such magnificent luxury, and the condition of those, whose numbers made his strength, shewed in the most glaring light the infatuation of vanity, in displaying such temptations to its own destruction, as the most implicate obedience to laws could hardly be supposed proof to.

The awkwardness with which my master bore his state shewing that it was not natural to him, I looked back to his past life to see by what illustrious actions he had risen to such an exalted station; but to my surprize discovered that the foundation of his fortune had been no more than a *phlegmatic indolence*, and *servility of soul* which induced his superiors to entrust power into his hands, without apprehension of its raising him to a consequence that might clash with their designs on any future occasion.

I see you are astonished that a person of such a turn should ever engage in active scenes, or be entrusted with the conduct of an enterprize so opposite to his disposition, as to make success improbable. To unexperienced reason such things must seem unaccountable; but the least acquaintance with the ways of

man, would soon reconcile you to greater absurdities. The convenience of the parent, not the genius of the child, is in general the only thing considered in the choice of a profession on which the success of life depends; and this is the reason why so few are eminent in things so easy to be eminent in; and when at length a person may have it in his power to quit a profession which he did not chuse, it is too late for him to chuse another, and therefore he plods on with habitual indifference, not knowing what else to do with himself.

This may remove your surprize as far as it concerns my master's first entering into, and continuing in such a way of life. As to his fitness for so difficult and important a command, that it was the thing least thought of, when it was entrusted to him. The insignificancy of his character, and his servility to his superiors pointed him out as the person proper for their purpose, as they not only made them secure that he would not go beyond their orders, but would also put it in their power to arrogate to themselves the merit of success, or lay the blame of miscarriage upon him; and for these great qualifications only did they chuse him on this occasion to execute *the design of another*, who had been guilty of the unpardonable crime of shewing that he knew more than themselves, and whose penetration and activity of soul might too probably have made him see through their designs, and push matters farther than was consistent with them.



CHAP. II.

Motives of the enterprize in which CHRYSALE's master was engaged. In a private conference between him and his agent, some curious secrets, in a business not generally understood, are laid open, and a seeming contradiction naturally reconciled.

WHENEVER *England* is at war with any of her neighbours, the effects are felt to the extremities of the globe. The armament which my master now commanded was sent against one of the most important and wealthiest settlements of the *Spaniards* in that part of the world, not indeed with an ambitious design of annexing it to the state, or reimbursing any part of the expences of the war, but merely to distress the enemy by its destruction, and enrich those immediately employed in the conquest; the prospect of which, and the consequent schemes to accomplish it, so entirely engrossed the attention of them all, except my master, that they disregarded the difficulties, and ran so eagerly into the dangers of the attempt, though such and so many as were sufficient to have damped the ardour of any beings directed by reason, and not insensible to the first principle of human action, that his phlegmatic disposition was no impediment to their success, as it left them at liberty to pursue such measures as the instant occasion should shew to be expedient, without the delay of consulting him.—I say, “except my master;” for not all the cares of so extensive a command, all the hurry and bustle around him could ever ruffle the characteristic stagnation of his mind.

He was just awoke from his noon-tide nap, when

his Agent laid the bag *in which I was* upon his table, along with some papers. The chink of the gold instantly attracted his attention. “Eh!” (said he rubbing his eyes and yawning) “what is it o’clock?”—“And being told, “Ay!” continued he, stretching and yawning again) “I thought I had overslept myself, I am so heavy! This climate is fit for nothing but sleeping.”——Then rising languidly, What papers “are these?” (said he) “Did I not say, I would not be troubled about business?” “They are your own accounts, for the *out-sets* of this expedition, (answered the Agent) which if you please you had better look over now, as we shall have others to attend to soon. I am sorry to say it does not answer your expectations, but the people alledged that they had been made to pay so extravagantly for their *contracts*, that it was impossible for them to sink the qualities of the stores, so low, as to be able to give you any thing on that account, so that all your profit is reduced to the one article of *short-tale*; and in this too every Captain must go *snacks*.”

“Not able to give me any thing!” said the Admiral, who had been roused from his lethargic indifference, by the first mention of his own affairs, “They lie, the scoundrels; and I’ll make them know it. The *sick-lists* shew that they have sunk them with a vengeance, and beyond every degree of reason; and if they think that I’ll connive at their murdering the men, without having any share in the profit, they shall find themselves damnably out in their reckoning: And therefore do you go to every Purser in the fleet, and bid them to have a *survey* privately made of the worst stores, to produce when I call for it. I’ll make them *come down*, and hand-somely too; or they shall repent it.”——

“But, sir, (replied the Clerk) is not there danger

“ that they may discover the affair of the *short-tale*, in
 “ revenge for such an attack ; and that they who
 “ made the contract with them may be so offended as
 “ to hinder your being ever employed again ? ”

“ I care not ! ” (returned the Admiral, clapping his
 hands a-kimbo) “ I care not for their being offended !

“ ———Not I ! I don’t desire to be employed. If I
 “ mind my *bits* this time, I shall be as rich as the best
 “ of them, and will stay at home, and take my ease,
 “ as well as they : and as to what you say of their
 “ discovering the affair of the *short-tale*, that only
 “ shews your ignorance. They would lose more by
 “ that, than I should, as they have made every thing
 “ so damn’d bad, and are paid for the whole com-
 “ plement. Besides, don’t you consider whom they
 “ are to complain to ? No ! No ! We shall hardly ex-
 “ pose one another ! Things and things hang together
 “ too close for that ! One is as deep in the mud as the
 “ other is in the mire.”

“ But may not they spread stories abroad, which
 “ may injure your character with the public ? ”——

“ My character, do you say ? Not in the least.
 “ Such stories affect only the *Clerks*, and such low
 “ people, whose *perquisites* those things are reputed to
 “ be, and who only appear in them ; but that can’t
 “ be said to injure them neither, for what Clerk ever
 “ had a character that could be injured ! Hah ! Hah !
 “ Hah ! So that your care for character forsooth is
 “ quite unnecessary ! Do what you will, you cannot
 “ suffer in that. All you have to do is to mind
 “ your business, and when you have got money, no
 “ one will enquire about your character.”——

“ Then, sir, I presume the account must stand
 “ open as it is, till we go back, to settle those
 “ affairs.”——

“ Aye !—Or stay ! You may leave it with me. It
 “ will amuse me to look it over when I have nothing

“ else to do ! And you may pay in whatever money
 “ you have got too. I can give you a receipt on
 “ account.”——

“ That’s right, fir,” (said the Clerk turning back,
 as recollecting himself) “ I should be glad to know
 “ what *poundage* you will require of the sutlers for the
 “ provisions they shall take on shore. Several of
 “ them them have applied to me to know.”

“ Only twenty shillings in the pound ! (answered the
 “ Admiral) *Cent. per. Cent.* on the first cost.”

“ Perhaps, fir, (replied the Clerk) You don’t
 “ consider that the General will expect *his composition*
 “ too.”——

“ Well ! and what is his composition to me ? Let
 “ them give him as much more if they will. They
 “ can afford it well enough. They may charge as
 “ high as they please ; their customers cannot help
 “ themselves. They must pay any price, rather than
 “ starve, since they have no where else to go.

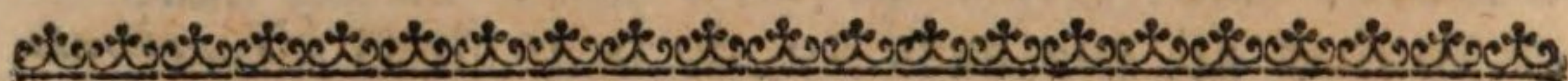
“ But you need not give yourself any concern a-
 “ bout this. The general and I have agreed to act
 “ in concert, and divide equally between us every pro-
 “ fit that can be made, while we continue together,
 “ so that all you have to do is to meet *his private*
 “ *Agent*, and settle matters with him.”

“ I am very glad you have come to a good under-
 “ standing with each other !” (said the Agent, apply-
 ing equivocally to the Admiral, what he really meant
 of himself) “ It would otherwise have been impossible
 “ to avoid disagreements, as your interests would have
 “ clashed in so many instances, than which nothing
 “ can be more dangerous in such affairs as ours, for
 “ fear of improper discoveries ; but where all parties
 “ understand each other rightly, business goes on
 “ with pleasure and success.”

These weighty matters being thus adjusted, the Agent
 withdrew, when my master walked a turn or two about

his great cabbin, and then opening the money-bag, and telling the contents, but a few pieces, *among which I was*, into his pocket, and locked up the rest in his strong box, after which he threw himself again on the sofa, to rest after the fatigue of so much business.

You seem at a loss how to reconcile the sentiments which my master discovered in this conference, with the luxury and magnificence of every thing about him. But they contradict not each other in the least. In the transactions with his Agent, he shewed the genuine motions of his heart; but with the other he has nothing to do. They are entirely at the expence of public, though in a manner not obvious to every eye, being a kind of tax established by custom on the *Pursers* of men of war, under the appearance indeed of a *present* to their commanders, but in reality as a *bribe* for conniving at their impositions; and this tax it is that enables those commanders to live up to their rank which their just pay would never do: a striking instance of that wise œconomy, which to save a penny lays a man under a necessity of stealing a pound.



CHAP. III.

The behaviour of CHRYSAL'S master on hearing an interesting piece of news, with his concise method of conducting an enterprize. CHRYSAL changes his service for that of a person of a very different character. An eloquent speech and produces the usual effects of eloquence.

MY master had not passed his time long in this agreeable manner, when the officer next to him in command entered hastily, and told him in a

transport of joy, that the man at his mast-head, had *made* the land.

“What land?” (said my master, unmoved at the news, or the manner in which it was delivered by the other, whose eyes flashed fire as he spoke) “What land does he *make*.”

“The place of our destination! (replied the officer:) I had just then taken an observation myself, and am convinced I am right.”——

“Well then (returned my master) if you are sure it is the place, here are your instructions. You are to lead the van, and cover the landing, about which proper directions will be given by the General: When that is done you shall have farther orders.”——Then swelling with the thought of his own consequence, and resolving to support his dignity by an uncommon effort of generosity, “Has the fellow who *made* the land (said he) been rewarded for his news?”

“Not yet; (answered the officer) the moment I heard it, I ran up myself to the mast-head, and as soon as I was convinced it was true, flew to acquaint you. But I shall remember him, when I go back.

“And pray when you do, give him this in my name,” (replied my master, putting his hand into his pocket, and reaching *me* to him;) “the men’s spirits must be kept up. We shall have warm work of it; warm work!”——

“Glorious work” (added the officer) the trophies of your fame will now be established in the opposite extremities of the globe. Few attain such happiness.”

“Aye!” (said the Admiral, puffing and sweating with the sense of his great achievements) “I have done something to be talked of in more places than one. I have endured the severities of various climates. But we must hear every thing in the ser-

“vice of our country! We must bear every thing
“without complaining.”

“Have you any farther commands, sir? (said the
“officer) It is proper I should be on board. I see
“several of the ships have now made the signal of
“seeing land.”—

“Nothing more at this time (answered the Admi-
“ral.) You have your orders, and will take the best
“method to execute them. If you should be at a
“loss at any time, you may apply to me. I shall be
“in my proper station *in the rear*, attentive to every
“thing that is doing.

My new master on this withdrew, leaving the Admiral to enjoy the contemplation of his own consequence, and keep himself cool till dinner.

If the indolence of my late master was inconsistent with his station, the activity of my present seemed to exceed the abilities of a human being. The moment he got to his own ship he made a signal for all the captains in his division; and the General, to come on board him; and then ordering his ship’s crew to be called *ast*, he went to the *barricadoes*, and waving his hat over his head, “Courage, my lads! (said he) the
“day is ours. The Admiral has given us leave to
“take yonder town with all the treasure in it, so that
“we have nothing to do now, but make our fortunes
“as fast as we can, for the place can never hold out
“against us. The Purser will give every brave fellow a can of punch to drink prosperity to old *England*, and then we’ll go about our business with
“with spirit. We shall all be as rich as Jews. The
“place is paved with gold, which the lubberly Dons
“have gathered for us. Old *England* for ever is the
“word, and the day is ours.”

This eloquent harangue had the effect that eloquence always has, it transported the hearers out of their senses. They answered with three cheers, which made the

welkin ring, and then went skipping and dancing with joy to get their punch, a foretaste of their good fortune, which many of them would not have given up for all their expectations.

As they were going off, my master happened to see among the croud the man who had first discovered the land, and calling to him, "Here, ship-mate," (said he, giving him a Doubloon) "here is something the Admiral has sent you for your good *look-out*; and take this also from me; (giving him another) and I hope to give you an hundred more for hoisting your colours on the top of yonder walls."——

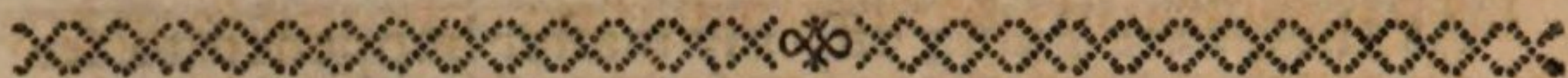
"Aye! noble Captain," (said the Sailor, shrugging his shoulders, and making his best bow) "and so I will, or it shall cost me a worse fall, than from the main-top-gallant-mast-head, that is when the ship *takes a heel*! I'll pull down proud *Spain* and clap old *England* in its place."

The spirit which my master shewed in every word and action interested me so far in his favour, that I was pleased at his not having parted with me on this occasion.

By this time the General and the Captains were come on board, and being shewn into the great cabin, "Good news, gentlemen," (said my master in an extasy shaking every one of them by the hand as they entered) "I bring you good news! Yonder is the object of our hopes, the place that is to make our fortunes, and crown us with glory, if it is not our own faults, for the Admiral has given us general orders to proceed in the best manner we can, and without losing time or opportunity in waiting to consult him on every occasion; so that if we fail the fault will be entirely ours, as I said before, as also will the glory of success."

This news filled them all with the highest spirits. They congratulated each other on a success of which

they made no doubt; and having concerted the measures proper to be taken, returned to their ships to carry them into instant execution.



CHAP. IV.

A characteristic conference between CHRYSALE'S new master, and his friend the general. Remarks on war; with the causes and consequence of several celebrated victories. A motive not commonly attended to, for courage in soldiers and subaltern officers, accounts politically for some apparent wrongs which they suffer.

AS soon as the Captains were gone, my master turned to the General, for whom he had a particular regard, and embracing him eagerly, “Now, my dearest friend (said he) you will have an opportunity not only of gaining such glory, as will add lustre to the dignity of your birth, but also of acquiring a fortune to support that dignity properly. But what is the matter? You do not seem affected at the happy prospect! are not you well?”

“Well!” (answered the General, shrugging up his shoulders) “Yes, I am well enough as yet; but know not how long I shall continue so, in this damn’d place, the heat of which seems to have set you on fire.”

“Damn’d place do you call it?” (replied my master, vexed to the soul at the manner in which the other spoke) “It will be an happy place for you, if it is not your own fault, a much happier place than where I suppose you wish to be, gaming at the coffee-house, or cracking jests for your patron over a bottle. But take care! The eyes of all your officers are upon you, and if they should observe this indifference it would ruin you for ever. They would di-

“ rectly attribute it to want of spirit, on the least sus-
“ picion of which your patron would cast you off
“ with contempt and abhorrence, and never interest
“ himself more in your behalf, and you know with
“ what difficulties he obtained this command for you ;
“ so much indeed that gratitude to him should make
“ you exert yourself if you had no other motive, as he
“ in a manner staked his character for you. Come !
“ stir ! You will be in no danger. Your post exempts
“ you from that. All you have to do is to appear a-
“ nimated, and alert ; and give your orders with fire.
“ Your officers are to encounter all the dangers.”

“ As for the dangers of war,” (returned the Gene-
ral, stung by the implication in the latter part of
what my master had said) “ I disregard them as much
“ as any man. But this damn’d climate is the thing. I
“ hate the thought of fighting with an invisible ene-
“ my, of sucking in diseases and death with my breath ;
“ and then besides I hate all trouble so much too,
“ that I would this moment give up the prospect of
“ glory, which you seem so struct with, to be at home
“ safe, and at my ease.”—But the prospect of gain !
“ Would you give up that too ? I have often heard
“ you passionately lament your want of a fortune
“ suitable to your rank, and now you have it in your
“ power to acquire it. But if you miss this oppor-
“ tunity.”——

“ May I never get another !——No ! No ! I shall
“ hardly give up that ! I will not neglect any thing
“ in my power to acquire a fortune ! But what did
“ you mean just now, by saying you’d go yourself in
“ your long boat to head the men ! Sure that is not
“ necessary.”——

“ Aye ! And you must go too for this time ! There
“ is no possibility of dispensing with it. But this
“ will be the only night you need stay on shore, or
“ expose yourself to any danger. You may go on

“ board every night after this, and sleep in quiet and
“ safety ; for there will be little or no danger by day.
“ All the work must be done by night.”——

“ My dearest friend, and if I may, I will. It is
“ but saying that the night air does not agree with
“ me, and no one will dare to mutter a word to the
“ contrary.”——

“ Come then ! let us move ! The men will do their
“ duty with double spirits, when they see us in ear-
“ nest. I am as desirous of making and enjoying a
“ fortune as you can be ; but would make it with as
“ much credit as possible tho’ ; and to convince you
“ that I consult your credit also, your cousin shall go
“ with me, and give out whatever orders I see pro-
“ per, as if they came immediately from you. Only
“ do not you betray the contrary by your inatten-
“ tion. Consider what immense treasure there is in
“ the place, and what a noble share of it will fall to
“ to you.”——

“ Aye ! Aye ! Let us but once come to sharing the
“ plunder, and I’ll engage to be as alert and atten-
“ tive as the best of you all. Never fear me at that
“ work. No one shall get the start of me there.
“ As you say I must stay on shore to night though,
“ I’ll just see my *night-dress* put up ready, to take
“ with me, with a *febrifuge*, two or three *juleps*, and
“ and some *ptisane* to guard against the worst, and
“ then I’ll be with you ; though I wish it were possi-
“ ble to avoid going on shore this night ! There will
“ be such hurry and confusion in landing the men,
“ that I shall unavoidably put myself in an heat,
“ and that is very dangerous in the night-air ; but
“ I’ll take a purge in the morning to carry it off.”——

“ Prithee don’t think of such things now. Your
“ officers all expect you, and it is time you were with
“ them, so remember the consequence, and exert
“ yourself with spirit. The success of this affair will

“ enable you to spend the rest of your life as you
 “ please.”——



C H A P. V.

An officer desires to speak with the general, the mention of whom introduces a remarkable instance of ignorance of the world. Anecdotes of the officer; with the bad consequences of a subaltern's attempting to distinguish himself in the army.

MY master then embraced his friend, and each was just going to attend the business of his separate department, when a subaltern officer, in one of the regiments under the General's command, desired to speak with him directly on matters of the most earnest importance.

At the mention of the officer's name, the General shewed the strongest disgust. “Damn that meddling fellow (said he peevishly) what would he be at now? I suppose this is one of his romantic schemes to *distinguish himself*! I am not at leisure! Let him wait.”

“Pray who is this?” (said my master, not a little surprized at the manner in which the general spoke) And what scheme can he propose, that should give you such offence?”

“He is an hot-headed, ignorant fellow; (answered the General) who knows so little of the world, as to think of rising in the army, by his merit, as he calls it; and for that purpose, not content with doing his duty, is always seeking unnecessary dangers in order forsooth to *distinguish himself*, though his own experience, as well as general observation, might long since have convinced him of the folly of

“ such a scheme, as he never has been in any action
“ in which he has not found means to make himself
“ remarkable ; and still so far from rising, he has had
“ the mortification to see himself evidently slighted,
“ and younger officers daily put over his head, for
“ no other reason, but because they behaved in a less
“ offensive manner.”

—“ I don’t understand you. What offence can
“ possibly be taken, at a man’s striving to distinguish
“ himself in a profession, where emulation is in a
“ manner essential to success. ?”

—“ Perhaps it may in the navy ! But shew me,
“ if you can, one instance in the army of a man’s
“ rising by that kind of merit ! No ! no ! our rule is
“ directly the contrary. A subaltern’s attempting to
“ distinguish himself is an affront to his superiors,
“ not to be forgiven, as it implies a saucy design of
“ putting himself into competition with them, for
“ the good opinion of the public ; and therefore such
“ attempts are always discountenanced. If it were
“ otherwise, no man of fortune or interest would ever
“ enter into the army, as he could not think of enjoy-
“ ing his ease, or shewing a prudent regard to his
“ safety, on any occasion, without being liable to be
“ be exposed to disgraceful comparisons, by the im-
“ pertinent assiduity, or rashness of every hot-headed,
“ or beggarly fellow, who has no way of being able
“ to live, but by shewing his disregard for life, and
“ all its pleasures. Indeed poverty may possibly seem
“ to be some excuse, for such behaviour ; but this
“ man has not that to plead. He is above want, and
“ acts in this manner merely from an ambitious, tur-
“ bulent spirit, that must be kept under. You seem
“ surprised at what I say ; but I’ll give you an in-
“ stance or two of the effects of this very man’s passion
“ for *distinguishing himself*, in more ways than one,
“ which will convince you of the necessity of a Gene-

“ neral’s suppressing every tendency to emulation of
“ that kind in the army.”

“ In our last attempt upon the coast of *Spain*, a
“ young gentleman of family and fortune took a whim
“ to go as a volunteer with the General, merely to
“ indulge curiosity, and have something to talk of
“ among the ladies, on his return. As they were
“ on their voyage, the gentleman unluckily happen-
“ ed to fall into company, with this officer, who on
“ hearing him talk away carelessly, in the confidence
“ of his great fortune, had the assurance to tell him,
“ that courage did not consist in words; but that
“ when they should meet the enemy, he himself
“ would give him an opportunity of proving his,
“ by keeping him company.

“ The gentleman, never considering that his situa-
“ tion in life raised him above emulation with one so
“ much below him, thought such a challenge could
“ not be refused; and accordingly the day that our
“ troops were beat off, in his way to the sea-side un-
“ luckily meeting this man, who with his usual de-
“ sign of *distinguishing himself*, had officiously drawn
“ the company to which he belonged, and which he
“ had so endeared himself to by a mean attention to
“ relieving their wants, when not occasioned by their
“ own faults, that they would follow him any where;
“ and made a stand in a place of such danger that no
“ one but himself, would have thought of taking post
“ there, in order to cover the embarkation of such as
“ could escape; and remembering what had passed
“ between them on board, would needs stop with
“ him, here he was killed by the very first fire of the
“ enemy, as it was the greatest odds, but every one
“ of them must have been, unsupported as they were;
“ though it appeared afterwards, that had the Gene-
“ ral posted a proper force in that very place at first,
“ or even reinforced him, the retreat might have

“ been regularly, and the greatest part of the heavy
 “ loss which he suffered, saved. But that was no bu-
 “ ness of this man’s ; and it was the highest impu-
 “ dence in one of his station, to take such a step, with-
 “ out orders, as must necessarily expose the neglect of
 “ his General, and draw disgrace upon him ; for
 “ which reason any General would rather even lose a
 “ battle, than owe it to such means, as must take a-
 “ way the credit of it from him in that manner.”



CHAP. VI.

Continued. The officer acquits himself of the imputation of ingratitude by a piece of foolish generosity. He persuades the soldier, who had saved his life, to quit the army, for an uncommon reason. The consequences of such conduct, with an hint of the best qualifications for rising in the army.

“ **N**OR was this the only instance in which this
 “ man’s passion for *distinguishing himself*, was
 “ attended with disagreeable consequences, on that
 “ occasion.

“ As he was swimming to the boats, (for he had
 “ staid so long to cover the escape of others, that
 “ when the remains of his little party was at length
 “ broke by the whole body of the enemy’s army, and
 “ driven to the sea-side, there was not a boat near to
 “ take them off, so that he had no other way of es-
 “ caping himself, but by plunging into the sea, and
 “ swimming after them) he was so encumbered with
 “ his cloaths, that he was in the greatest danger of
 “ being drowned, which one of his men, who swam
 “ better, happening to perceive, and knowing by his
 “ dress that he was an officer, he saved him, without

“ distinguishing in the confusion of such a situation,
“ who he was.

“ As soon as the officer came to himself in the
“ boat, (for he was so near being drowned as to have
“ lost his senses) and understood what had happened,
“ he turned to the soldier, and telling him slightly,
“ that it was very well, proceeded to exert himself in
“ *his usual officious* manner, in saving as many others,
“ who were in the same circumstances, from which
“ he had just escaped himself, as he could; while all
“ his superior officers, who had taken care to get off
“ in time were refreshing themselves after their fa-
“ tigue and fright; without taking any farther no-
“ tice of the soldier who had saved him; though
“ every one thought he should have given the poor
“ fellow a guinea or two at least, in reward for his
“ good-nature, and failed not to rail at him loudly
“ for neglecting it.

“ Besides the pitifulness and ingratitude of such
“ behaviour, there was another circumstance that
“ made it look still worse, which was that he had had
“ this very soldier severely punished for some fault,
“ just before they had embarked on this expedition,
“ so that it appeared like persisting in personal ma-
“ lice to him. For he is not satisfied with distinguish-
“ ing himself only in time of action. Even before the
“ war was thought of, his attention to discipline gave
“ equal offence, as it put every officer in the regi-
“ ment to the trouble of minding matters, which
“ otherwise they should never have thought about,
“ in order to avoid impertinent comparisons.

“ But all the railing of the men and reflections of
“ the officers had no effect upon him. He minded his
“ business with his usual assiduity and strictness, nor
“ ever seemed to think of what had happened during
“ the whole voyage home.

“ But this was only affectation, to make what he

“intended to do the more remarkable. As soon as
“the troops were landed in *England*, he ordered the
“soldier to come one morning to his quarters, and
“bring his wife with him.

“The common motive for such orders was far from
“raising him in the opinion of any who heard of it.
“However many familiar instances convincing the sol-
“dier that he must obey, they went accordingly ;
“where after a few common questions,” “I have
“sent for you, brother soldier, (said the officer) to
“make you some return for the service you did me.
“Here is your discharge from the regiment. You
“were bred to a good trade, and have had time to be
“cool’d from the follies, which first made you list in
“the army ; and your wife is an industrious honest
“woman, so that there is no danger but you may do
“very well in your business, to set you up in which
“here is an hundred pounds ; and so take care of
“yourself, and God blefs you.

“Sir ! Sir ! noble Sir !” (said the soldier, over-
come with such unexpected generosity) “I humbly
“thank your honour ; but why my discharge ? I’ll
“never quit you. I’ll live and die with you ! I’ll
“follow your honour to the mouth of a cannon. I
“don’t desire my discharge.”——

“I don’t believe you do !” (answered the officer)
“nor do I in the least doubt your bravery. But I
“can not have you under my command. Your care-
“lessness has often led you into faults, which have
“obliged me to punish you, as it too probably may
“again. Now after the service you have done me,
“I never could bear the thought of having you pu-
“nished, and I never will have any man under me,
“who shall escape punishment, when he commits a
“fault that deserves it ; so that we must part. My
“advice to you, as your friend, is to return to your
“own country, and follow your business ; and if I see

“ that you make a good use of what I have now given
“ you, I shall be ready to assist you farther. But if
“ you chuse to continue in the army, any regiment
“ will readily receive you.”

“ No!” (replied the fellow sobbing and blubber-
“ ing) no! since I must not stay with you, I will serve
“ under no one else.”——

“ Now what do you think was the consequence of
“ this vanity? Why truly, he *distinguished himself* so
“ much by it, that no other officer met with any re-
“ spect from the soldiers after, who were continually
“ crying him up for his generosity, to excite others
“ to follow his foolish example, and throw away their
“ money in relieving the distress of a parcel of fellows,
“ whom they have nothing to do with, and the go-
“ vernment is obliged to take care of, if they were
“ worth any care, after they are past doing farther
“ service.”

“ But the General shewed proper resentment of
“ such impertinence, and put an officer younger by
“ many years, over his head, to reward the pains he
“ had taken to *distinguish himself*. No! no! that is
“ not the way to rise in the army now-a-days. Where
“ a man has neither money, nor interest to push him
“ forward, *being able to sing a good song, or pimp well,*
“ *or having a handsome wife, or sister* with a proper
“ degree of humility and complaisance, will avail
“ him more, than all the courage and conduct in ro-
“ mance.”

C H A P. VII.

CHRYSALE's master draws some interesting comparisons between the land and sea services, which account for the different success in them. The officer is admitted, and put under arrest for presuming to do more than his duty.

IT is remarked that men seldom enquire into the causes of things continually before their eyes. Habitual acquaintance prevents that curiosity, which is one of the greatest incentives to knowledge. They have always seen such things; and therefore have never enquired how they came to be so. My master who had long observed the fact, but never thought of the cause, was at first a good deal surprized at what his friend said. After some pause, “I am afraid what
 “ you say is too true,” (said he) and I am sorry for it.
 “ The service would go on much better if it were
 “ otherwise, as you see *ours* does, many of the most
 “ eminent commanders in which have raised them-
 “ selves from the very lowest stations, merely by that
 “ kind of merit, which you take such pains to discour-
 “ age.”——

“ That may be so” (answered the General;) “ but
 “ the case of *your* service, and *ours* is quite different.
 “ Every captain of a man of war, when on a separate
 “ cruise, acts as a General in Chief; and even in a
 “ fleet, his force is so immediately collected under his
 “ own command, and separated from every other,
 “ that it is in some measure in the nature of a detach-
 “ ment, so that in both cases, he has a right to do
 “ whatever he thinks proper, without danger of giv-
 “ ing offence to any one else.

“ But how should you like to have one of your

“ midshipmen, or lieutenants, running every minute
“ to you with advice, or presuming to strike out new
“ methods for working the ship in a gale of wind, or
“ fighting her in time of action ?

—“ Perhaps not very well, without he had before-
“ hand shewed me the advantage of such new methods,
“ and then I should most readily adopt them, without
“ ever considering whom they came from. But in-
“ deed there is a more essential difference between
“ your service and ours, than you have taken no-
“ tice of, which is that every man must be a stated
“ time a subaltern (a midshipman) before he can by
“ any interest be promoted to an higher rank ; which
“ time is sufficient for him to acquire a competent de-
“ gree of knowledge in his business, and which time
“ he can scarcely apply to any thing else, as from the
“ situation he must be in for the greatest part of it,
“ (at sea) he has nothing else, to which he can apply
“ himself ; and this, and the spirit of emulation, for
“ the exertion of which, their acting separately affords
“ them, as you observe, the most advantageous op-
“ portunities, may possibly be the reasons, why so
“ many distinguish themselves, (if I may use the word
“ without offence !) among us so gloriously, and with
“ such advantage to their country ; while the officers
“ of the army, for want of due encouragement to per-
“ sonal merit become dispirited, and indifferent to
“ the success of a service in which they have no hopes
“ of rising, by any means in their own power.”

“ A severe remarker might perhaps account for
“ this discouragement to emulation, and neglect of
“ personal merit in the army, from motives not much
“ to the credit of the commanders, and say that *as*
“ *they had not risen by such themselves*, they looked with
“ an invidious eye upon them, as a reproach to their
“ own want of both. Indeed it cannot be just to ex-
“ pect, that a General, *who has spent his life in paying*

“ court to a minister, or favourite, or who was preferred
 “ only for his interest in Parliament, should understand
 “ the minutiae of his duty, and see the necessity of en-
 “ couraging a merit, the want of which was no ob-
 “ stacle to his own preferment.—But this is an evil
 “ beyond our power to redress, though till it is re-
 “ dressed, matters can never go on with that success,
 “ which a contrary conduct would make certain.

“ However, I think you had better see this gentle-
 “ man. Perhaps he may have something to inform
 “ you of, worth your attention. At any rate it is
 “ not proper to throw any damp on courage, at such
 “ a time as this.”

The General, who seldom disputed my master’s
 opinion, accordingly ordered him to be admitted, and
 enquiring what was his business, “ Sir! said the offi-
 “ cer, I come to inform you, that I have discovered a
 “ proper place for landing the troops, which I will
 “ undertake to make good, with only two hundred
 “ men of the regiment to which I belong, against all
 “ the force of the enemy, if I am permitted to go di-
 “ rectly, before they have time to throw up any
 “ works there.”——

“ You have discovered, Sir!” (answered the Gene-
 “ ral haughtily) “ I do not understand you! Pray
 “ when did you make this notable discovery?——

“ Just now, Sir;” (replied the officer, not in the
 least disconcerted at the manner in which the Gene-
 ral spoke) “ the *transport* in which I was happening to
 “ stretch away a-head, I got out a boat, and have re-
 “ connitred a great part of the coast, in the thick of
 “ the enemy’s fire.”——

——“ And pray, who ordered you to reconnitre in
 “ this manner?”——

“ No one, Sir. I never wait for orders to do any
 “ thing that I think for the advantage of the ser-
 “ vice.”

“ Then, Sir, I’ll have you to know, that no man
“ under my command shall take upon him to do any
“ thing without orders. He is a good man, who
“ does his duty ; and I desire no more.”——

——“ But though you may not expressly desire it
“ Sir, I hope it is no personal offence to you, for an
“ officer to strive to distinguish himself !

——“ *Personal offence !* What do you mean, Sir ? I do
“ not understand you !”——

——“ I am surprized at that, Sir ! I think my mean-
“ ing pretty plain.”——

——“ Sir, I care not what you think ; but I’ll make
“ you bridle your tongue.”——

——“ *Bridle my tongue !* That is not in your power,
“ Sir ; nor perhaps my hands either, at a proper
“ time. I will say what I know to be just ; and do
“ what I have a right to do, without being brow-
“ beaten by any man.”——

——“ And so will I, Sir, do what I have a right to
“ do ; I will this moment put you in arrest, for your
“ insolence, and keep you there, till you have learn-
“ ed how to behave yourself more properly to your
“ superiors.”——

The General instantly put his threats in execution, sending him bursting with indignation at such treatment, under arrest to the ship, to which he belonged.

The conversation between the General and the officer had been carried on so rapidly, that my master had not any opportunity of interferring. As soon as he was gone, “ I heartily wish (said he dryly) this
“ affair had not been carried to such extremity. It
“ will have an ugly appearance at this time, and
“ may be made very bad use of, in case of any unfore-
“ seen disappointment.”

“ Why ! why ! (said the General, scarce recovered from his passion) “ How could I help it ? Would you

“ have me bear to be insulted, and threatened in
“ that manner, without shewing the resentment pro-
“ per for my station ?”——

“ By no means ! When things had gone so far, I
“ do not see how you could avoid doing what you
“ have done. I only wish you had treated him at
“ first in another manner ; and not provoked him
“ beyond his reason. I own I have conceived a fa-
“ vourable opinion of him. He appeared to be ac-
“ tuated by true zeal, and spoke with the cool firm-
“ ness of a soldier, till he was put off his guard. To
“ be sure there was a great impropriety in his going
“ to reconnoitre in that manner, as it may draw the
“ attention of the enemy that way ; but then he might
“ have been told of that, without treating him with
“ such haughtiness.”——

——“ Very true ! it was very improper ! I wish I had
“ thought of that ! But the insolence of his coming
“ to advise one, and presuming to act without orders
“ put it out of my head.——

——“ What is past cannot be helped now ; but do
“ not do any thing farther to-day, and I’ll try to
“ make it up some way to-morrow, before it can be
“ known, or have any bad consequences”——

The friends then parted, though neither quite so
well satisfied with the other as before this affair.



CHAP. VIII.

The affair is made up, by CHRYSAL's master, on the General's making an apology to the officer, and accounting candidly for what he had done. The officer quits the army, leaving an interesting piece of instruction behind him.—Some short but striking sketches of the progress of the enterprize.

I SEE you are anxious for the fate of this officer. To satisfy your curiosity, and avoid being obliged to break the thread of my narrative with the sequel of this story, at another time, I will give it to you now.

At the instance of my master, the general sent the next morning to discharge the officer from the arrest ; but he, conscious of his innocence, and glowing with resentment for the indignity offered to his honour, refused to stir, till his character should be cleared by a court-martial, which he therefore resolutely demanded as his right.

This embarrassed the General not a little. However after some days, when the officer's patience was pretty well tried, and the severe losses sustained in the course of the siege, made the worth of such men more attended to, my master attacked him, on his *foible*, his principles of honour, and zeal for the service of his country, and prevailed on him to return to his duty, on the General's making him an apology, for for what had passed, which, taking the hint from my master, he attributed entirely to his apprehension of the enemies being put on their guard by his reconnoitring, so as to prevent his landing the troops, at that place, *as he had before designed*; and to conceal

the disgrace he had suffered, he not only expressed this publicly, and treated him with an appearance of uncommon respect during the siege; but also on his return home, to avoid some consequences which might not have been so very agreeable to him, when the officer, no longer immediately under his command, made a resolute demand of *personal satisfaction* repeated his former apology in the most public manner, and obliging terms and affected to use his interest to get him promoted, but too coolly to succeed, so universal was the offence taken at his presuming to think of *distinguishing himself*, by a conduct which gave trouble to his equals to imitate, and *reflected disgrace on his superiors*, who had never practised the like themselves.

The consequence at length was, that after repeated breaches of direct promises to do him justice, he thought it proper to quit a service, in which he had spent the prime of his life with credit, but without advantage, in order to shew an honest resentment, and avoid the mortification of meeting farther neglect; leaving behind him this important instruction, purchased by his dear experience, *that personal merit is quite unnecessary in a subaltern officer, and an obstacle, not an assistance to his rising in the army.*—But to return to my story.

You must not expect a circumstantial detail of the progress of this enterprize. The operations of war are too confused to give pleasure to reason in the representation, too horrid not to give pain to humanity.

I see you think this remark too severe; but that is the effect of prejudice. When the victories, which have been blazoned highest, and reflected the greatest glory on those who gained them, are stripped of the false colourings, laid on only to dazzle and deceive, and examined coolly, most of them will be found to have been owing to some unforeseen accident, some

lucky improvement of a blunder of the enemy, or else an obstinate perseverance in their own, after every boasted rule of art has been broken through, every resource of judgment exhausted in vain; and to have been attended by circumstances of such misery, and loss to victors as well as vanquished, as blasted every glory, and infinitely over-balanced all advantage possible to be gained by them. I shall therefore barely touch upon such particulars as may serve to give a sketch of the character of those concerned in them.

The ardour shewn by the subaltern officers and private men, when they received orders for landing, was impossible to be accounted for from any other principle, than *disregard to a life destitute of every comfort and convenience that could endear it*; a remark, which to the humane wisdom of some may seem to justify the deficiency and badness of every kind of provision made for their support; while those, whose more exalted rank may be thought to animate them with a sense of honour, and ambitious hope, and who therefore do not want such an incitement to desperation, enjoy a luxury scarce to be reconciled with the confusion of such an unsettled state.—But to return.

The remainder of that, and all the next day was taken up in making preparations for landing the troops, which was effected under cover of the night, when some were drowned in approaching an unknown shore in the dark, some killed by the enemy, and more by their own men, in the tumult and confusion of such scenes.

In the same manner was the siege of the town carried on, manifold more of the assailants falling every hour, by the inclemencies of a climate unnatural to them, and against which no proper provision had been made, though they had been delayed to meet its

fiercest fury, by diseases caused by the badness of every necessary of life, and above all by the misconduct of their leaders, than by all the efforts of the enemy, all the arts which the ingenuity of man could advise for the destruction of his own unhappy species.



CHAP. IX.

CHRYSAL'S attention is agreeably diverted by the appearance of a young SPANIARD, who throws himself at the feet of his master to prefer an extraordinary request. The History of DON ALPHONSO GUZMAN, the young SPANIARD.

I WAS relieved from the pain of attending to such scenes of horror, by an affair that shewed in a striking light the force of passions more natural to the heart of man.

As my master, who was the soul of the enterprize, was standing one night to see the effect of a battery which he had caused to be raised on an eminence, that commanded a particular quarter of the town; for not content with performing his own duty in his proper station by sea, he literally fulfilled his promise to his friend, the General, and directed the operations by land also in his name; a youth, who had made his escape from the garrison, and advanced in the face of all their fire, though sufficient to terrify any being capable of terror, threw himself at his feet in agonies of distress.

My master whose heart was warmed with that generous compassion, which is inseparable from true courage, was struck at the sight, and raising him from the ground, bad him declare the nature of his dis-

trials, and expect every assistance to which he was entitled by the sacred duties of humanity.

Encouraged by these words the youth raised his head, and fixing his eyes upon my master with a look inexpressibly supplicating, “O stop your fire, gracious Chief,” (said he pressing his lips passionately to the hand that had raised him, and on which he still hung) “stop your fire in that fatal direction, where it can hurt only innocence and virtue. That building, against which it is levelled, is not a part of the fortifications, the destruction of which can be of any service to you. It is a convent dedicated to the *Virgin Mother of God*, and at this time contains all that my soul holds dear, all that is beautiful and virtuous under heaven.”

Though his youth, beauty, and distress interested every one present in the suppliant's favour, the nature of his suit must necessarily have prevented his success. But an accident saved him from the pain of being refused, the powder which was to serve the guns somehow catching fire, and destroying the greatest part of the battery, in the very instant he spoke.

Not all the horrors of such a scene could suppress the joy he felt at an event so favourable to his hopes. “Heaven has interfered!” (exclaimed he, in an ecstasy) “Heaven has interfered to save her; and man will not presume to oppose its pleasure.”

The enthusiastic manner in which he said this, struck my master. “Restrain your passions for a few moments,” (said he) till I have leisure to attend more particularly to you; and then if you can convince me of the truth of what you say, your request shall be complied with. Far be it from me to hurt those hapless votaries of religion. *Britons* seek other objects of their valour.”—He then gave the necessary orders for repairing the battery, and de-

firing the youth to follow him, went on board his ship, where he treated him with every mark of politeness and compassion.

As soon as they had taken some refreshment, my master made a sign to every one else to retire, and addressing himself to the youth in the most humane manner, desired to know who he was, and what motives could have induced him to run into such imminent danger in order to prefer a suit, of the success of which there was so little probability.

The youth for some moments hung down his head, abashed, then with a sigh that seemed to burst his heart, “It is my duty, most generous Chief,” (said he) “to give you the information you require, however painful the task may be to me; especially as your condescending to listen to the story of my misfortunes awakes an hope, that you will be moved by them to grant a request on which depends my life.

“My name is *Alphonso*. My father, *Don Pedro*, bears an honourable command in the forces which defend yonder city against your arms, but glories more in the honour of being descended from the noble family of *Guzman*, which has preserved its blood pure from every debasing mixture, since the beginning of time in the mountains of *Castile*, and produced a race of heroes, whose fame has filled the world.

“When my father arrived at an age fit to bear arms, as none of the powers of *Europe* dare to provoke the wrath of *Spain*, disdaining a life of inglorious peace, he entered into the forces sent hither to reduce such of the rebellious natives, as still presumed to refuse submission to the monarch of the *Spanish* worlds, where he signalized himself so eminently, that at the end of seven years his merits

“ were rewarded with a commission, signed by the
“ Viceroy himself in the name of the King.

“ Such a distinguished honour gave weight to the
“ addressees which he had for some time paid to the
“ only daughter of *Don Alonzo Garcias*, who was a
“ native of *Arragon*, and had been sent over by the
“ King to fill the important office of Secretary to the
“ Receiver of his Revenues.

“ From this marriage, so honourably to both parties,
“ ties, I have the happiness to derive my birth, if it
“ can be called an happiness to be born only to mis-
“ fortunes.

“ As I was the sole hope of two such illustrious
“ houses, no pains were spared to give me an educa-
“ tion suitable to my birth; the great exploits of my
“ ancestors, the antiquity, and untainted nobility of
“ my blood, were continually repeated to me to ex-
“ cite emulation, and inspire me with proper senti-
“ ments of honour. Such care seemed the surest
“ means to procure happiness, but the wisdom of
“ man strives in vain against the decrees of fate.

“ In the neighbourhood of my father's house, there
“ lived a merchant named *Don Antonio*, between whose
“ family and ours there was the closest intimacy; an
“ intimacy mutually advantageous, the countenance
“ of a person of my father's consequence being an
“ honour to his friend, who never omitted those
“ returns of gratitude, which his wealth often gave
“ him an opportunity of making.

“ *Don Antonio* had an only daughter, whose being
“ heiress to his great fortune was the least blessing
“ Heaven had bestowed upon her! O! my *Olivia*,
“ shall I ever behold you more? May I yet raise
“ my hopes so high as to think of calling you
“ mine?”——

At these words a flood of tears choaked his utter-
ance, my master took the opportunity to go out, and

give some orders to his officers; and on his return, the youth proceeded.

“ *Don Antonio's* daughter and I being nearly of the
“ same age, the tender connection of infant fondness
“ grew up between us, and improved with our ripen-
“ ing years. The attention of my father was too
“ much engrossed by his military cares to take notice
“ of our attachment, and my mother was so sensible
“ of the many perfections of *Olivia*, that far from
“ discouraging, she promoted it by every means in
“ her power, dwelling continually on her praises,
“ and suggesting to me such little offices of affection
“ and respect as were suited to our ages, and most
“ likely to make an impression on her tender heart.

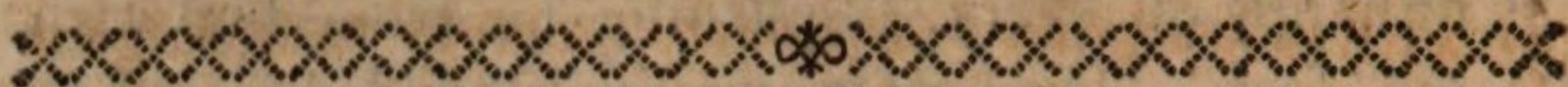
“ Nor did the father of *Olivia* (she had lost her
“ mother in her infancy) shew any dissatisfaction at a
“ passion which could not escape his notice; influ-
“ enced most probably by a sense of the honour
“ which he should derive from such an alliance.

“ In this happy state we lived till I entered on my
“ fifteenth year, when my father thought it proper
“ for me to learn the art of war, in order to qualify
“ me for such military promotions as I was entitled
“ to by my birth, and for that purpose gave me no-
“ tice to prepare myself to march with some troops,
“ which were going to reinforce a garrison, in the
“ most distant part of the kingdom.

“ Though my heart glow'd with all the ambition
“ and desire of glory, which my noble blood must
“ naturally inspire, the thought of being separated
“ from *Olivia* overballanced every other considera-
“ tion. In the first emotions of my soul therefore I
“ threw myself at my father's feet, and rashly
“ own'd my passion, imploring him as he regarded
“ my life to make me happy in the possession of my
“ love, before he attempted parting us, even for a
“ moment.

“ It is impossible to describe his rage on this
 “ unhappy discovery. Spurning me from him with
 “ his foot, Degenerate wretch! (said he, when
 “ his wrath permitted him to speak) “ Degenerate
 “ wretch, to stain the honour of your blood by
 “ thinking of an alliance with the daughter of a
 “ person, of whose family you have no knowlege!”
 “ —(For in all the intercourse of intimacy, the fa-
 “ ther of *Ovilia* had never discovered in what part
 “ of *Spain* he had been born; nor could the recital
 “ of illustrious pedigrees, the constant topic of dis-
 “ course among the noble, ever incite him to an e-
 “ mulative mention of his own.)———Hence! Fly
 “ my sight this moment; nor ever presume to appear
 “ before me again, till you have conquered this dis-
 “ graceful passion.

“ I knew the inflexibility of my father’s temper
 “ too well to attempt making any reply, even would
 “ the fullness of my heart have permitted me. I re-
 “ tired therefore without speaking a word, and going
 “ to my mother, informed her of my distress, which
 “ she strove to alleviate by every expression of tender-
 “ ness and consolation, promising to exert all her in-
 “ fluence, as soon as the first heat of his wrath should
 “ be allayed, to prevail upon him to consent to my
 “ suit.



C H A P. X.

Continued. OLIVIA's father is taken up by the Inquisition, and herself put into a convent, on an ENGLISH battery's firing, upon which, DON ALPHONSO comes in despair to CHRYSAL's master to make a very odd request, which he grants at length, and also promises him his assistance to obtain his mistress.

“ **T**HOUGH I received some encouragement
 “ from these assurances, I could not forbear
 “ going in the boding of my heart, to acquaint
 “ Olivia with what had happened, but in the most
 “ delicate terms. Her affliction was not less than
 “ mine. She saw the sincerity of my love, and in
 “ the tenderness of such a scene yielded to my en-
 “ treaties, and plighted her faith to me by the most
 “ sacred vows.

“ Comforted by the thought that she could not
 “ now be torn from me, I returned home, where I
 “ found my mother fulfilling her promise, and plead-
 “ ing with my father in my behalf. As their earnest-
 “ ness made them speak aloud, I could not resist the
 “ natural desire of listening to a debate of such im-
 “ portance to my hopes. She urged with all the
 “ strength of reason, the absurdity of thinking a fami-
 “ ly dishonoured by the admission of a female, and
 “ enforced her arguments with the examples even of
 “ Sovereigns; she insisted on the beauty, virtues,
 “ and fortune of Olivia, which made her worthy of
 “ the most honourable alliance; and concluded with
 “ saying how much better it would be for us all to
 “ have me married to a person, whose wealth would
 “ enable us to spend the remainder of our lives in

“ plenty and happiness, than to continue struggling
“ with every misery of poverty, merely to indulge a
“ false ill-grounded pride.

“ My father had listened to the former part of
“ what she said with an appearance of attention, but
“ the moment she mentioned his poverty, he lost all
“ patience. Forbear, mean, mercenary woman!”
(said he stamping his foot upon the ground with a
violence that shook the house) “ Forbear to tempt
“ my wrath by such base insinuations. Did ever a
“ *Castilian* think poverty an hardship, or put riches
“ in competition with his honour? Such sentiments
“ may suit an *Arrogonian*, but are beneath me. I
“ see the source of the wretch’s degeneracy! My
“ blood never could have stooped to such meanness,
“ had it not been mixed with yours.”——

“ Saying this, he flung out of the room, and
“ finding me at the door, mark me, thou disgrace
“ to my blood!” (said he with a look that appalled
my soul) “ If ever I hear more of this affair, I swear
“ by the offended honour of all my ancestors, to sa-
“ crifice every one concerned in my being offered
“ such an affront.

“ What I felt at hearing this dreadful denunciation
“ may be easily conceived. I swooned away, nor re-
“ covered my senses till several hours after, when I
“ found my mother weeping over me, in the bitter-
“ ness of resentment and grief.

“ As soon as she perceived that I was come to my-
“ self she strove to comfort me, by repeating her for-
“ mer promises, to the accomplishment of which she
“ was now farther impelled by her resentment of the
“ reflections, which my father had thrown upon her
“ country.

“ But an unforeseen misfortune blasted all our
“ hopes before she had time to make another effort.

“ The father of *Olivia* having had occasion to go

“ *England*, on some affairs in the course of his extensive dealings, was so taken with the people of that country, that after his return, he never omitted any opportunity of vindicating them from the injurious aspersions of those who spoke only from prejudice, and without proper information.

“ This attachment naturally raised the jealousy of the clergy; but as he confined his approbation merely to their moral and social virtues, without ever saying a word in vindication of their religious tenets, they contented themselves with cautioning him against misplacing his praise, and telling him, that *there could be no virtue where the true faith was not; and therefore those actions, with which he was dazzled, were no more than shining sins*: And they were thus mild in their reprehension, as he was remarkably punctual in the profession and practice of all the rites and doctrines prescribed by the holy church.

“ But this lenity lasted not long. On the breaking out of the present war with *England*, some persons who envied the success with which his honest industry had been rewarded, raised a suspicion in the governor of his holding an improper correspondence with the enemy, to which his former regard for them seemed to give an appearance of probability.

“ Bold in conscious innocence he denied the charge, nor could the strictest enquiry procure the least proof of it: But in the course of their search a discovery was unhappily made, that involved him in ruin, if possible, more dreadful; a number of books containing opinions contrary to the Catholic Faith being found in his possession concealed among some of his goods.

“ In vain did he alledge that they belonged not to, nor could possibly have been known of by him, the goods among which they had been concealed

“ having been landed but a few days before out of
 “ of an *English* ship, which had been taken by a
 “ *Spanish* man of war in her passage to one of their
 “ own colonies, where such books were openly allow-
 “ ed of, and sold to him unopened, as they still re-
 “ mained.

“ But evident as the truth of this was, *the Holy*
 “ *Office*, to whose jurisdiction the affair belonged,
 “ would not admit of any such excuse. They in-
 “ stantly seized the unhappy man, and hurrying him
 “ away to their own prison, took possession of all his
 “ wealth, and forced his helpless daughter into yon-
 “ der convent.

“ This misfortune which deprived me of the
 “ wretch’s poorest consolation, the liberty of com-
 “ plaining, drove me to despair. I pined in silence;
 “ and was beginning to meditate on laying down a
 “ life, that was become a burden to me, when my
 “ father calling me to him one morning, the time is
 “ come!” (said he smiling fiercely) “ that will prove
 “ the blood of *Guzman*. The evil genius of the *Eng-*
 “ *lish* has prompted them to come, and seek their
 “ deaths here. The most noble Governor has not
 “ only promoted me this day to the command of a
 “ company in the forces destined for the defence of
 “ this city, but also in respect to my family, has ap-
 “ pointed you to be my lieutenant. Let this arouse
 “ you to a sense of yourself! Consider what you owe
 “ to your country, and to your name! Every feeble
 “ passion flies at the manly voice of war.”

“ Languid as my soul was, I could not hear this
 “ news, without joy, especially as it opened me a
 “ prospect of meeting honourably that death, which
 “ was now my only hope. Accordingly, as soon as
 “ the enemy appeared I courted danger with such
 “ eagerness, that my father in spite of all his magna-

“ nimity more than once desired me to restrain a courage, that arose to an excess.

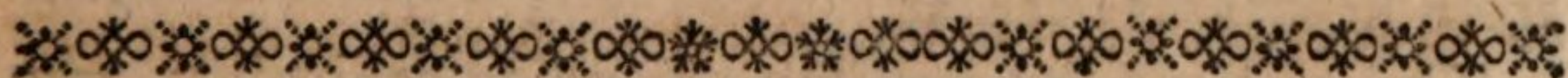
“ But even death itself is deaf to the wretch’s call. Nothing material happened to me, till the battery, to which I came to you, opened upon the convent, when the thought of my *Olivia*’s danger of being buried in its ruins drove me to madness. I instantly flew thither, and imagining that such circumstances bore down all regard to rules calculated for times of peace, demanded entrance to convey the inhabitants to some place of safety : But what was my astonishment to hear, the Governor had given the strictest orders, that not a soul should be admitted to stir, committing to the immediate hand of Heaven the protection of its peculiar votaries.

“ Such inhumanity, for I can call it by no milder name, broke every bond of duty and allegiance. I abjured all farther connection with so cruelly insensible a monster ; and recollecting the many exalted instances of true generosity which the unhappy father of *Olivia* had told me of the *English*, I resolved to apply myself to them, and try whether I could not obtain that safety for the beloved of my soul, which I could not hope from him, whose duty it was to protect her.

“ This, most illustrious Chief, is the story of my misfortunes ; the cause of that conduct which appeared so strange to you. If you grant my suit, you will be amply rewarded by the conscious approbation of your own mind. You will merit the blessing of Heaven on your undertakings, by sparing the most perfect of its works ! And may I presume to add ! You will attach to you an heart that is incapable of deceit ! Through every vicissitude of life will I attend your steps, the faithful servant of your fate.”

The brighteness of truth breaks through every cloud, and forces conviction. “I grant your request;” (said my master with a smile of consolation and encouragement) “The convent shall be spared. Nor
 “is that all. If success crowns my hopes, I will also
 “use every means in my power to restore your *Olivia*
 “to your arms.”

The joy which the youth felt on hearing these words, is not to be described. “O generous *Eng-*
 “*lishman!*” (said he throwing himself at my master’s
 “feet once more, and kissing them in rapture)
 “You must succeed! Heaven will prosper every en-
 “terprize conducted with such virtue.”



C H A P. XI.

The fortunate effect of CHRYSAL's master's sparing the convent. The mutual advantages to victors and vanquished of articles of capitulation. The only business of a general. CHRYSAL's master performs his promise to ALPHONSO, into whose service CHRYSAL enters. ALPHONSO recovers his mistress, whose father is set at liberty by a piece of FUN of some ENGLISH Sailors. Conclusion of the story of ALPHONSO. CHRYSAL changes his service.

ACCORDING to his promise, the next night the battery was repaired, my master gave orders to direct the fire another way, where he soon found the reward of his generosity, one of the first bombs which was thrown setting fire to the principal magazine in the whole city, the blowing up of which overturned a considerable part of the fortifications.

Animated by this success to a degree of phrensy,

the besiegers pushed on their attacks with such irresistible fury, under the directions of my master, (whose impetuosity bore down all obstacles, and made amends, though at a dear expence of blood, as well for his own ignorance in a species of war foreign to that which he had been bred, as for that of those whose particular business it was) that *in spite of the accumulated havoc of war, and disease, of want, and blunders worse than all*, they at length overcame the obstinacy of the besieged, and compelled them to propose delivering up the city on terms, the establishing of which was readily agreed to, *as they saved the plunder from the soldiers of the victorious commanders*; at the same time that they protected the persons of the vanquished from licentious outrage.

The moment the garrison offered to capitulate, my master flew with the news to his friend the General, and embracing him in a transport of joy, “At length
“ (said he) the moment is come, that makes our fortunes for ever. The city is our own. Go; and
“ exert the plenitude of your authority, in making
“ such terms as shall enable us to support the dignity
“ of our birth and rank, without being any longer
“ obliged to languish in slavish dependence on ministerial favour.”

“That I will!” (answered the General) that I will,
“ my dearest friend! Doubt not my acquitting myself properly for the pleasing task! I have been long
“ prepared for it. It was the sole motive for my soliciting the command, nor has any thing else entered into my thoughts since I obtained it, but
“ making terms, and dividing the spoil; that is *devising how to swell our own shares upon the division*. I
“ have calculated every thing to the greatest nicety,
“ and will shew you such strokes as shall surprize you.
“ *The only business of a General is to calculate contributions, and divide plunder.*”

Though my master was sufficiently eager to acquire wealth, he could not approve of the profession of such sentiments. He hastened away therefore, without making any reply, to the place of action, to be ready in case of any accident, never thinking he had done any thing, while any thing remained for him to do.

Much as such scenes engrossed his attention, he did not forget his promise to the *Spanish* youth, but ordering him a guard of soldiers, bade him go, as soon as the gates should be delivered up, and secure the convent where his *Olivia* was confined, from any accident which might happen on such an occasion in spite of all their care, give him at the same time a purse of gold, *in which I was*, to answer any present necessities, with directions to apply to him again, if he should have any farther need of his assistance.

My new master did not want to have such a commission repeated. He kissed the hand of his benefactor in a rapture of gratitude, and encouraging the guard assigned him with the most liberal promises, flew, the moment the gates of the city were opened, to the convent, and demanded his *Olivia* with the peremptory voice of a conqueror, where the sight of the guard removed every objection, and she was instantly delivered to him.

The meeting of these young lovers was most affecting. They flew into each other's arms, and embracing in extasy too big for utterance, gave vent to the fulness of their hearts by a flood of tears.

Recovering himself at length, “Come, my *Olivia*,” “(said *Alphonso*, taking her hand) let us leave this place. Let us go”——

“O whither” (interrupted she, starting wildly) “Whither shall I go? I have no home;—no father to receive me.”——

“My home is yours;” (answered *Alphonso* embracing her most tenderly) “We will go to the house of

“ my father, who cannot persist in his cruelty, when
“ he is informed how signally Heaven has interferred
“ in our favour, and there we will consult on the
“ means proper for procuring the deliverance of *An-*
“ *tonio*. I have a protector among the conquerors,
“ the most generous of mankind, who will not refuse
“ his assistance on such an occasion.”

These words comforted *Olivia* with an hope, for the accomplishment of which though she was indebted to another cause.

The way from the convent to the house of *Alphonso's* father leading them by the prison of the Inquisition, *Olivia* was so affected at the sight of it, that she swooned away in the arms of *Alphonso*. Such an accident naturally threw the whole company into an embarrassment, while they were in the midst of which, a body of *English* seamen, who had slipped away from their officers, and were roving about merely from curiosity, and without intention of doing mischief, but ready to join any that should fall in their way, happening to come by, no sooner understood from the guard what was the matter, than looking at each other for some moments as if waiting for the word of command, at length one of them cried out, “ Hallo,
“ boys! What say you? Shall we bail the gentlewo-
“ man's father? May-hap there may be some of our
“ countrymen in the bilboes along with him! Damn
“ my eyes and limbs, but it would be good *fun*, to
“ set them all free! I fancy the Inquisitors will not
“ refuse our bail; if they do, I should be glad to
“ pick a quarrel with them; I hate them mortally
“ ever since I saw them roast some poor *Smouches* at
“ *Lisbon*, because they would not eat pork. Come!
“ cheer away, my hearts of oak! All hands aloft, and
“ to work.”

These words were like fire given to a mine. He had scarce finished, when the thoughtless creatures

without more ado ran to the prison, and while some of them were forcing in the gates, the rest mounting on each other's shoulders climbed over the walls.

The moment *Olivia*, now recovered from her swoon, saw the prison open, "Now is the time, *Alphonso*!" (said she) "Now is the time to set my father free."—

The hint was sufficient. *Alphonso* turned directly to the guard, perceiving by their looks, that they were willing to assist him, "I go, my love!" (said he) "But where shall I leave you in safety till I return? such a place cannot be fit for your delicacy.

Speak not of leaving me!" (interrupted she eagerly) "I will go with you! No delicacy shall interfere with such a duty."—

On her saying this, they all entered the prison, where the seamen were shouting, and skipping about like so many wild creatures, and setting all the prisoners at liberty wherever they went.

The secrets of this prison-house are too horrid for description. I shall therefore draw a veil over them at this time, especially as another occasion will lead me into the same scenes again, when the representation will be more interesting.

No words can convey an idea of the tenderness of the meeting between *Olivia*, and her father, whom *Alphonso* and she readily found out. As soon as they had indulged the first transports of their joy, she informed him briefly how much they were indebted to *Alphonso*, for their present happiness. Though her father was not at a loss for the motive of such generosity, he thought it not proper to take notice of it at that time. He embraced him tenderly, and besought Heaven to reward his virtue.

"The happiness of serving those most dear to us," (said *Alphonso*, who had not the same command of his temper) "is its own reward. *Olivia* and her father

“ have a right to every thing in my power. But let
 “ us leave this place, the sight of which appalls my
 “ soul. Let us go to the house of my father.”—

“ Lead on, my children !” (answered *Olivia*’s father) “ I follow willingly ; and not without hope of
 “ reconciling my friend to our general happiness.”

When they went out of the prison, they found the sailors employed in executing a piece of justice exactly in their character. They had rambled all through the prison, without doing or designing mischief, till they came to the chamber in which were kept the instruments of torture, the sight of which incensed them to such a degree, that they instantly resolved to make the Inquisitors themselves feel the force of them in their turn ; but they, apprehensive of what might happen, had prudently made their escape by a secret passage, as soon as the prison had been forced. Disappointed thus in their design, the sailors took all the horrid apparatus, with the habits, ensigns, books, &c. of the office, and piling them up in the court, set fire to the heap, concluding the exploit with three cheers for the honour of old *England* ; after which they marched off in quest of more *fun*, as unconcerned as if nothing had happened.

When *Alphonso* arrived at his father’s house, he found his mother just sinking under the weight of affliction. On hearing his voice, she started up, and running to him, “ O my son ! my son !” (exclaimed she, clasping him in her arms, and leaning her head upon his bosom) “ Heaven has heard my prayers ! I
 “ am not childless, though I am a widow.” “ A widow !” (exclaimed *Alphonso*) “ Forbid it, Heaven !
 “ O my father !”——

“ Yes, *Alphonso* !” (continued she, raising her head from his bosom, which she had bedew’d with her tears) “ Your father died, as he lived, with honour,
 “ fighting valiantly by the side of his General, in de-

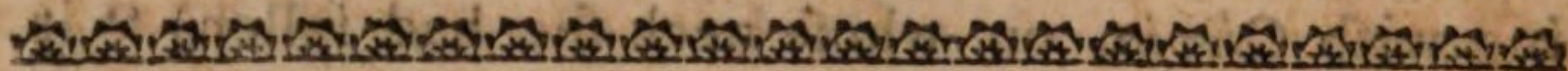
“fence of his country. But what do I see?” (casting her eyes upon *Olivia*, her father, and the guard, whom her surprize had prevented her taking notice of before) “*Olivia! Antonio!*——And who are these “strange men?—But alas, I know too well!—O! “my son, art thou then a prisoner to the enemies, “who slew thy father?—Am I to lose thee again, “the moment thou art returned?”——

“No my mother?” (answered he) “I am no prisoner! They are our protectors, given by the most “generous of men, who has thus restored us to each “other! O! that my father were alive, to make our “happiness compleat.”

“Since Heaven has appointed otherwise,” (said *Antonio* going up to *Alphonso*’s mother, who was weeping with *Olivia*, on whose neck she had fallen) “it “is our duty to submit to its pleasure. The circumstances of our lives make it improper for us to “think of living any longer here. But that should “not discourage us. The virtuous find a home “every where! We will remove to the dominions of “the *English*, where I have lodged in honest hands “fortune sufficient to make our retreat happy. Under the protection of their laws, a man’s mind is “at liberty, and his wealth is secure. Mine was my “only crime here; but I was aware of such an attack, “and had removed it beyond the reach of those, “who impiously made religion the pretext for depriving me of it. Were my friend *Don Pedro* living, “I would have removed the objections which his “high notions of honour made to an alliance with “my family, and prevailed upon him to accompany “us,” * These words comforted the mother of *Alphonso*, and made the lovers happy.

* The story of ANTONIO followed here, but was so blotted and imperfect in the M. S. that the Editor was obliged to omit it.

Every thing being thus settled, the guard was dismissed with professions of the highest gratitude to the generous Chief, which *Antonio* and *Alphonso* proposed waiting on him to pay in person, as soon as he should be more at leisure; and to reward the soldiers for their attendance, *Alphonso* gave them the purse of gold, he had received from his benefactor, and *in which I was*, in the division of which I fell to the lot of the serjeant who commanded them, who, looking upon me as an earnest of the vast treasures he was to receive as his share of the spoil, went away with an happy heart, to join his fellows, who were now in full possession of the city.



CH A P. XII.

CHRYSA L makes some striking remarks on a state of absolute liberty. Disappointment of the hopes of the conquerors, with the natural consequences. CHRYSA L's master going to take a taste of the pleasures of affluence, is flammed out of his treasure by a sutler, into whose service CHRYSA L enters.

THE conduct of man in such scenes as this, where he thinks himself at liberty to follow the instantaneous impulse of his own will, without apprehension of immediate punishment, shews the groundless vanity of those, who boast so loudly of the excellency of his nature, and deny the necessity of coercive laws.

It is true, no people ever abused this liberty less than the *English*, who scorn to inflict upon others that oppression from which their laws protect them-

selves ; as on the other hand, slaves, on a change of fortune, always prove the most imperious tyrants ; but still the circumstances attending even the most moderate exertion of it are too shocking for dispassionate description, wherefore I shall wave the painful task.

As soon as some degree of order was established in the city, the victorious commanders proceeded to divide the spoil, *a work for which they all shewed their capacity in the most remarkable manner*, the pittance which they thought proper to appoint for the share of each of the private men, who had literally born the heat and burthen of the day, being a trifle beneath the acceptance of any but a beggar who wanted a morsel of bread, and not *the fifty thousandth part* of what the chief commanders, who comparatively had lived in luxury, and issued their orders from places of safety, modestly owned to have reserved for each of themselves.

Nor was the case of the inferior officers, who executed those orders, any better, their shares not being sufficient to defray the extraordinary expences which they had been at, to provide for the enterprize, much less the extraordinary expences of living, where the indispensable necessities of life were subject to the most exorbitant impositions of an avaricious, and arbitrary will ; so that all they gained by their conquest was to exchange the dangers of war, for the miseries of want.

This disappointment of the hopes which alone had supported their spirits through hardships almost beyond the power of nature to support, filled up the black list of the calamities, which attended this enterprize, aggravating by despair the diseases to which the climate subjected the victors to such a degree, that their loss, after their conquest, exceeded many times

that which they had suffered in the siege from so many combin'd causes.

To the truth of this representation, which to unexperienced speculation may appear too severely drawn, the wretched remains of the conquering army which returned to their exhausted country, bore a melancholy testimony.—But to quit these disagreeable reflections!

Such a treasure as I was (a greater much than he had ever been possessed of before!) raised the spirits of my master, the serjeant, so high, that he went directly to a sutler's tent to take a taste of the good living, which he thought himself secure of, for the remainder of his days.

On his entering the tent, and asking what entertainment he could have, the sutler, ignorant of his wealth, answered with a curse, that he had none for such shabby fellows as he, and took him by the shoulder to thrust him out. Provoked at such an indignity to a person of his present consequence, my master turned upon him, and pulling *me* out of his pocket, demanded haughtily, why he might not have what he would pay for, as well as another?

The sight of the gold instantly changed the sutler's whole behaviour. “My worthy friend!” (said he, shaking the serjeant by the hand) “I beg your
“pardon. I actually did not perceive whom I
“spoke to, I am so hurried about. But come along
“with me, and I'll make you amends. I have a
“nice leg of a fowl which was bespoke for your colo-
“nel; but *first come first served*, as the saying is, so
“here it is for you; and here is a bottle of wine
“as cool as if it came but this minute from *Ice-*
“*land*.”

My master was not proof against such an invitation. He *fell to*, without more ceremony, and when he had

finished his feast, calling to know what he had to pay, the sutler answered, Two doubloons.

“Two doubloons?—Two devils said the serjeant, staring at such a demand) “For a leg of an old hen, “as black as Hell, and lean as *Beelzebub*; and a bottle “of rot gut, four cyder? No! no! friend! no “such tricks for me. I am not to be flammed so “neither.

“Why there it is now!” answered the sutler, not much pleased with my masters looks) “The moment “a man grows rich, he grows covetous. I received “the same for the other leg of that very fowl this “moment from an ensign, who by the same token “left his laced waistcoat in pawn for half the money. But I will not fall out with you for such a “trifle, as I expect more of your custom; so e’en “give me what you please. You can’t think one “doubloon too much I am sure! But you shall make “it up another time.”

Such an argument could not be resisted. The serjeant threw me down upon the table with an air of grandeur, and went to consider how he should lay out to the best advantage, the treasures which he expected immediately to receive.



C H A P. XIII.

Character of CHRYSALE's new master. The right way not to suffer by making mistakes. A curious conversation between CHRYSALE's master and two persons of consequence lays open the secrets of some interesting affairs. He makes up a foolish dispute by a sensible toast.

I WAS now entered into a service, which opened to me so many various views of human folly, vice and wretchedness, as made the prospect painful.

The manner in which my new master got me into his possession, shewed his character in a light sufficiently strong. But I soon had the satisfaction of seeing that with all his address and imposition, he was himself no more than the tool of the impositions of superiors, who scarce left him the poorest gleanings to pick up, after all their plenteous harvest: The just and constant fate of all such wretches.

The continual hurry in which he was engaged, though he had falsely alleged it as an excuse for his treatment of my late master, the serjeant, was really sufficient to excuse any inadvertency, or blunder, and must have caused many in any one, whose ideas were not settled in one certain course, out of which it was impossible to divert them, of which his customers, whose attentions were not so distracted, might be apt to take advantage. But I soon found, that he was in no danger of that kind, all his thoughts having such an invariable bias to his own interest, that every mistake naturally fell to that side, for

which upon detection his hurry was a ready and probable excuse.

The serjeant had scarce left him, when two persons entered, one of whom I directly knew to be my old master, the Admiral's agent for *secret services*, as I soon found the other to be in the same important station with the General.

My master who was not at a loss for the occasion of their visit, led them into the most private place in the tent, and setting before them a bottle of *his best*, proceeded to business. “Mr. Admiral to your good health! Mr. General my very hearty service to you!” (said he, filling a brimmer, and addressing each, by the title of his master, as he shook them by the hand) “Here is a good conclusion of the campaign to us. I was impatient for your coming to know how I should go on. Here have been several officers with me already, for credit on the score of their prize-money, for the length of the siege, and the dearth of every thing has not left them a penny, nor any thing to pawn for one. I have got as many cloaths, and things of all kinds, as would serve to set up a *Monmouth-street* merchant. If the place had held out but a few days longer, the poor devils must have done duty in *Buff*. Hah! hah! hah!”

“And the properest dress for them:” (returned *the Admiral*) “Who wants any cloaths in such a climate as this? I am sure I go naked half my time, though I keep under cover, and have nothing to do to heat me.

“Very true! (answered my master) “But naked and hungry both are not quite so well; and when their moveables were all gone after their money, I don't know who would have supplied them!”

“Then let them live on their allowance!” (said the

General) "They who can't afford to pay for better, should be content with that."——

"To die upon it, you should say;" (interrupted my master) "I am sure the stores laid in are such as no one can live upon, that has ever known what living was. For my part, I wonder the contractors were not ashamed to supply such wretched stuff of all kinds. They must have no conscience at all, who can do such things."——

"Conscience! hah! hah! hah! who ever heard a sutler speak of conscience before!" (said the Admiral) "And pray, my conscientious friend, what do you charge a bottle for this most excellent wine of yours?——

"For this wine?" (answered my master, palating it two or three times "I charge for this wine only a *pistole*; and let me tell you, that is not so much, considering every thing. This Burgundy cost me five shillings a bottle, prime cost; and when you compute every expence, you'll find that my profit is nothing extraordinary; nothing at all in comparison of what others get.

"No! to be sure replied the General, your conscience won't suffer you to do as they do! you are too good a man——

"Too good a *Christian* you should say; (interrupted the Admiral) "as appears by your *baptizing* your wine so piously! hah! hah! hah! Pray what did the water cost, that is mixed with this same Burgundy? I hope that did not stand you in five shillings a bottle too? Hah! hah! hah!"——

"It is very well, gentlemen! (returned my master with a sneer) "You are pleased to be merry. But if I had not some way to make out matters, I could never pay the exorbitant taxes, which are squeezed from me, by some people whom I shan't name. and so here's my service to you both once more!

“ When you lower *your composition*, I’ll lessen the
“ quantity of water and mend mine. Hah! hah!
“ hah!”——

“ And so you had need, (said the General) to
“ make it drinkable: As it is, I wonder it does
“ not poison every one that tastes it. When I
“ lived at the *Shakespear*, we did not give worse
“ than this to our company after they were dead
“ drunk!

“ Worse than this! (added the Admiral) If you
“ had given me half so bad, I should have broken
“ your head with the bottle.”

“ Broken my head! (returned the General) “ fine
“ words truly! When you were a blue-nosed jour-
“ ney-man Barber, and used to come to me to beg
“ broken victuals, and bottoms of bottles, you spoke
“ in another tone.——

“ And when I was, Sir,” (replied the Admiral)
“ I had a good trade, and never looked upon
“ myself as upon a level with the pimp of a ta-
“ vern.——

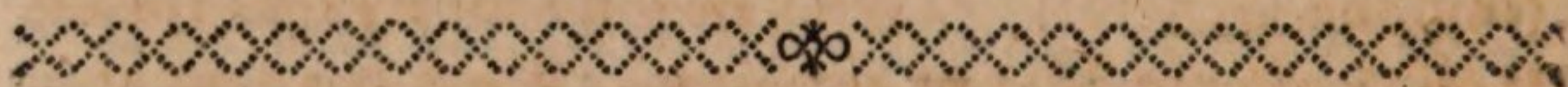
“ And yet that Pimping made you what you are
“ now!” (retorted the General rising up in a passion)
“ You forget perhaps how you begged of me to in-
“ troduce your sister to the Admiral, by which means
“ you got into his service! This is a fine return in-
“ deed.——

“ And you forget too,” (said the Admiral starting
from his seat, and catching at the bottle) “ That it
“ was that same sister of mine, who got you into the
“ General’s service, if you go to that, so that I think
“ the obligation is equal.——

“ Gentlemen! dear gentlemen!” interrupted my
“ master, (clapping an hand to each of their collars)
“ Consider what you are doing! What will the world
“ say of such a quarrel between gentlemen, who
“ ought to agree like brothers. For shame! every

“ body will laugh at you! come! sit down, and be
 “ good friends, and I’ll try if I have not one bottle
 “ of better wine, over which we’ll make up all
 “ matters,”——Then bringing it, and filling his
 glass, “ Come gentlemen,” (continued he, shaking
 each of them by the hand) “ I’ll give you a toast
 “ that shall drown all animosity: Here is prosperity
 “ to pimping! it is the best trade going, and has
 “ made us all! Aye, and is practised too by people
 “ in every station, however they may affect to turn
 “ up their noses at it. So let us attend to our busi-
 “ nefs, and not fall together, by the ears for nothing,
 “ like a parcel of dogs about a bare bone. It signi-
 “ fies nothing what we have been; if we mind our
 “ *bits* now, we shall all be gentlemen as good as the
 “ best of them; and as well respected too.”

The admiral and general saw the force of what he
 said and pledging his toast, shook hands and were as
 good friends as ever.



CHAP. XIV.

*Continued. The mysteries of agency; and convenience of a
 military government, with some curious notions of the
 of the genteelest ways of rising in life.*

WELL, gentlemen,” (said my master, who was
 not pleased at their jests upon his liquor, be-
 cause he could not deny the truth of them) “ I hope
 “ that wine pleases you!

“ Aye!” (answered the Admiral) “ this is *the right*
 “ *sort*! this is *the thing*, Give us this; and keep the
 “ other for officers, and such as are not used to bet-
 “ ter.——

“ And if it poisons them” (added the admiral) the
“ public will have the fewer to pay. Now they have
“ done the business let them live or die as they can,
“ we care not. That’s nothing to us.

“ Very true !” (said my master) “ All we have to
“ do is to make the most of them, while they do live ;
“ and therefore I should be glad to know, as I said
“ before, how far I may venture to go with them,
“ on the credit of their prize-money ; for as the place
“ was saved from being plundered by the articles of
“ capitulation, they must all get money on their
“ shares, whether they will or not ; their necessities
“ are such.”

“ So much the better for us, who can buy their
“ shares : (answered the Admiral) They’ll give the
“ better bargains. Their necessity is our gain.”——

“ Aye !” (replied my master) “ But I don’t find
“ they intend selling. All they propose is to mort-
“ gage.”——

“ Then let them see who’ll give them money :”
(said the General) “ No ! no ! no mortgages for us.
“ An absolute sale, or nothing. We’ll have no after
“ reckonings ; no *over-baling* accounts. As to their
“ being unwilling to sell, we’ll manage that matter
“ with them. When you have got them sufficiently
“ in your books, call for your money, and as it will
“ be impossible for them to pay, apply to the com-
“ mander in chief, who will oblige them to do you
“ justice.”

“ Why ! to be sure, that must do !” (answered my
master) “ But how far am I trust then ?——

“ This will shew you !” (replied the General)
“ Here is the rate of all their shares. Look at the
“ sum total. What noble fortunes that would have
“ made for half a dozen reasonable men. It went to
“ my heart to *fritter* it away among so many.”——

“ This ! this is the rate of their shares !” (said my

“master, not able to conceal his astonishment, when
“he looked at the paper which the other gave him)
“Is it possible that this should be all?”——

“Yes! (returned the admiral) and too much for
“them too. More than most of them ever had be-
“fore, or will make a good use of now.——

“Why, they’ll mutiny, and cut all our throats!”
“ (returned my master) “There are several of them
“who owe me almost as much as this already. I
“thought they would have ten times this sum at
“least. They’ll certainly mutiny and cut all our
“throats.

“Don’t you give yourself any trouble about their
“mutinying!” (said the General) “Do you mind
“your business and leave us to take care of that.
“Their spirits will hardly be so high! if you have
“gone hand over head and trusted them so far, you
“must abide by the loss. I thought I gave you a
“friendly caution about that before.

“And so,” (returned my master) “I am not to go
“beyond this rate you say?”——

“Not a penny!” (answered the Admiral) “That
“is your rule. Whatever you can beat them down
“of that shall be your own.”

“That is deducting five *per cent.* Agency!” (inter-
“posed the General) and five or ten *per cent.* as you
“can make your bargain, for prompt-payment, for
“we will not appear to have any hand in the affair,
“farther than paying you the money. It must not
“be known that we are concerned in the least.——

“You concerned!” (replied my master) I don’t un-
“derstand you. Are you to be concerned with me
“in what I buy?

“Not in the least” (returned the Admiral) “any
“farther than by employing you to act for us. You
“seem to mistake the matter entirely. You are to
“buy the shares for us, according to this rate, for

“ which we will allow you a proper agency: And
 “ that is all the concern you are to have in the af-
 “ fair.—

“ But I suppose,” (said my master) “ I may buy
 “ on my own account if I please! —————

“ Buy on your own account!” (interrupted the
 General) “ Such another word, and you shall nei-
 “ ther sell nor buy any thing here. Are not we the
 “ Commander’s agents; and do you think they will
 “ suffer us to be interloped upon! You may be very
 “ well content with the profits of your own business,
 “ without thinking to interfere in ours.”

“ I ask your pardon, gentlemen!” (said my mas-
 ter, who knew their power too well to dispute with
 them) “ It was only a mistake. I by no means pre-
 “ sume to interfere with you; and shall be proud to
 “ execute your orders, on whatever terms you think
 “ proper. I suppose though our former *composition* is
 “ to end. Provisions will now come in from every
 “ part, so that we can never think of keeping them
 “ up at the former prices.”

“ Can’t you so?” (answered the General) “ That
 “ shall be your own fault then; and your own loss
 “ too, I can tell you. Let provisions come in as they
 “ will, no one shall sell an ounce here without our
 “ permission, and that shall be on our own terms, you
 “ may be assured. Our hands are not tied up by
 “ laws. Ours is a *military government*, in which we
 “ can do what we please without being accountable
 “ to any one. So you may go on as before.

“ But, gentlemen,” (replied my master) you should
 “ consider that the whole odium of this will fall up-
 “ on me, as you do not appear in it, so that I shall
 “ lose my character for ever.”

“ Your character! Hah! hah! hah!” (interrupt-
 ed the General) “ A futler’s character! I shall never
 “ be able to bear the word again! Pray, my good

“ friend, had a sutler ever to lose, that would not be
 “ a greater loss to the finder? Come! here’s my ser-
 “ vice to you. Go on with your business, and make
 “ money, and never fear suffering by the loss of your
 “ character. It is time for us to go and settle what
 “ taxes we shall lay upon the different kinds of mer-
 “ chandize, that shall be brought here. *Our duties*
 “ shall be paid, as well as those of any king of them
 “ all. This is our reign; and if we do not make the
 “ most of it, we have no one to blame, but ourselves.
 “ And as rich as so many kings you will be;” (said
 “ my master) “ if you can carry off things in the
 “ manner you say.——

“ As to our being rich! (returned the Admiral)
 “ that depends entirely upon our own management.
 “ Our principals indeed will be rich enough, which
 “ is all they care for; not what becomes of us, whom
 “ they would have do their business for nothing, or
 “ next to it. But they shall find themselves mistaken.
 Every thing must go through our hands; and *gold*
 “ *in handling will stick to the fingers*, as the song says.
 “ We shall feather our nests in spite of them. They
 “ cannot do without us; and will hardly be fond of
 “ calling us to too strict an account, for fear of our
 “ telling tales. To be sure the great harvest will be
 “ their’s; but we will take toll.

“ I don’t doubt but you will,” (said my master)
 “ twice over for fear of mistake, as the miller does.
 “ Why you’ll make such fortunes that you wont
 “ know what to do with yourselves.

“ Never fear that! (answered the General) “ We
 “ shall not be at a loss. For my part I design to buy
 “ a borough, and push my fortune in parliament,
 “ That’s the genteelst business a gentleman can fol-
 “ low now, and the readiest way of advancing in life,
 “ and making a family.——

“ Now I think otherwise;” (said the Admiral) and

“ that it is the most ungenteeled way ; such dirty jobs
 “ are required for every thing a man gets, that it is
 “ beneath a gentleman to do them. My scheme is to
 “ buy an *Irish Peerage* at once, and then live splendid-
 “ ly, without troubling myself about any thing. Or
 “ if I should grow tired of idleness, go into parliament
 “ there, and turn *Patriot*, and make speeches for the
 “ good of my country.

“ Both your schemes may be very good !” (said my
 master) “ but my ambition is not so high as either,
 “ at least as yet, I will try to get a *Contract* ; and then
 “ I shall not fear making a fortune sufficient to do
 “ what you propose, or more if I chuse it ; without
 “ being sneered at, for my folly. You may say what
 “ you will, but there is more to be got by a *Contract*
 “ than by every other way ; and therefore it is the
 “ genteelest in my opinion. How many *Contractors*
 “ have I seen buy noblemens fine houses, and mem-
 “ bers of parliaments estates, with the profits of a
 “ single campaign ? And so, *My Lord*, and you, most
 “ honourable *Mr. Member*, I am your humble ser-
 “ vant.”

“ Honest *Mr. Contractor*” (replied both at the same
 “ time) “ Yours.

C H A P. XV.

*Affecting consequences of carrying the foregoing schemes into
 execution ; with the conclusion of the character and hi-
 story of CHRYSAL's master. CHRYSAL changes his
 service.*

AS soon as this worthy pair had left my master,
 he set about his business of preying upon the
 necessities of every one, who came near him, with as

much keenness as a vulture tears a carrion, and with as little feeling, or he could never have gone through with it.

The transactions I now saw are a pain to memory. For the few first days after their success, the officers, under the same intoxication with my late master, the serjeant, gave a loose to every kind of extravagance, to compensate to themselves for the wants and hardships they had suffered. But no sooner had they advanced near the limits prescribed to their credit, than the whole scene changed.

The mention of the amount of their respective shares was like a clap of thunder bursting over their heads. Their astonishment for some time deprived them of their senses. But when they were able to make a proper enquiry, and found the case to be too true, their rage broke through all bounds, and rose almost to desperation. *The horrors of a jail, the cries of a starving family*, every aggravation of human misery stared them in the face, and made the very thought of returning to their native country too terrible to be endured. But there was no remedy. Those from whom alone it could proceed, were too much interested to listen to their complaints; and instead of preventing, permitted their authority to be prostituted to complete their ruin, in the manner proposed by their agents, so that the unhappy victims were forced to submit to the terms imposed upon them.

The consequence of this, as I have said before, was, that to drown reflection they spent whatever trifle remained to them on concluding the bargains, which sealed their ruin, in still greater excesses, and so precipitated the distress they feared.

As for the private men, the impositions they suffered were if possible still severer, (though from their insensibility perhaps not so severely felt) as the *manage-*

ment of their affairs went through many more hands, every one of whom had a pull at them, down to the very lowest class of harpies which prey upon an army, so that what remained to them was too trifling to be of any service even to the very few, who struggled with their necessities in order to save it.

I have not entered minutely into the particulars of this horrid scene. This slight sketch will give you a general notion of it, and that is as much as an humane heart can bear. Indeed no description could reach the truth. I shall therefore only just finish the outlines of my master's character, and then pass on to the occurrences in my next service.

The extortions to which he was himself forced to submit, from those in authority, took off every shadow of shame to (conscience he had long been a stranger) and added double keenness to his natural propensity to extortion, by giving it what he thought the appearance of justice, and provoking him to wreak his resentment upon others, for what he suffered himself from those above his reach.

The opportunities for exerting his talents this way were infinite in a profession that is a mystery of iniquity too complicated to be unraveled, too black to be conceived, but upon experience, which he had acquired to the most consummate degree, in the gradual progression of his life.

A natural sharpness of genius, which ought to have been curbed not encouraged, had influenced his parents to bind him when very young to an attorney, under whom he learned, beside other valuable qualifications, the nice distinction between law and justice, so as to know critically how far he could infringe upon the latter, without danger of getting within the reach of the former: But encouraged by much success he had at length un-

luckily happened to go too near these boundaries, and been obliged to quit that profession; after some common steps of descent from which, such as *bailiff's follower, knight of the post, and bully to a bawdy house*, he stoped in that of footman to a beau, from which the necessary arts of *prevaricating, lying, and evading, disagreeable demands*, the qualifications of his former character, soon raised him to be his *gentleman*.

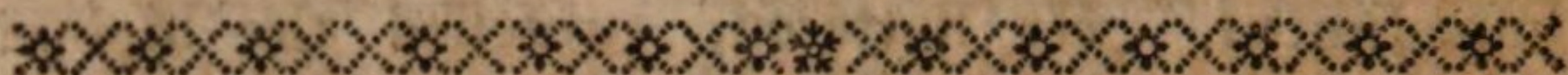
In this station he added to his stock of accomplishments, natural and acquired, *pimping, servility; adulation, and an absolute command of countenance*, on the strength of all which, together with some little money the fruits of his honest industry, on his master's fixing his habitation in a jail, he set up a tavern, where his *second-hand politeness and cringing behaviour* soon brought him into business, that enabled him to live better than he could have any right to have expected, and would in time have procured him an independence.

This success which would have satisfied a reasonable person, only raised his ambition, and made him despise his business. Accordingly he commenced *wine-merchant*, as more suitable to a *gentleman*, in which profession he went on, till his *one-horse chaise, his country-house, and kept mistress* would have brought him back to his primitive poverty, had not his knowledge of the world taught him to secrete from his creditors, something to try his hand upon in some other way, when he pitched upon his present occupation of a *sutler*, in which this account of his life shews he was most eminently fitted to make a figure.

Thus qualified in himself and supported by his employers, he proceeded making his bargains, with a success to which it may be thought no regard

to honesty, no sense of compassion was the least impediment. He flattered, professed the highest respect and attachment, and pressed his goods upon his destined victims, with every insinuating art, till he got them into his snare, when he directly put on all the insolence of power, and made even ruin still more wretched by the cruelty with which he drove them to it, the insensibility with which he treated them after. How often have I seen him refuse to trust a glass of what he called wine, to cool his raging thirst, and comfort his fainting heart, the man whom but the day or two before he had cajoled into the excesses, which drew him into that distress.

After some days of painful attention to such shocking scenes, I had the pleasure of being paid away to the captain of a merchant's ship, for some liquors, which he had the address to deceive the vigilance of the ruling powers, and all their emissaries, and convey *impost-free* to my master.



C H A P. XVI.

CHRYSALE's master swallows a pill, and pleads an important Cause without success. A curious method of parrying one false oath by another, with the first oath taken by the master of a merchant-man. He shews another instance of his skill in steering clear of perjury, but without his former success. His notion of conscience. CHRYSALE changes his service.

THE care, which I knew to be taken to detect and punish this kind of *illicit* trade, made me wonder at first that it should even be attempted; but I soon found that the danger of such detection, when it depends solely on the confession of those concerned, however forceful the means made use of to extort that confession, is held at nought by a set of people, bred in the grossest ignorance of every principle of moral virtue, or religious obligation, and hardened by long habit into contempt of whatever clashes with their interest.

When I came into the possession of my new master, he was going to attend the two *great men*, whose conversation with the *futler*, I have just now related, in obedience to a summons sent him the moment he entered the harbour. The reception he met with was suited to their importance. He was obliged to wait a considerable time, before they were at leisure to see him, when being admitted to their presence, and having delivered in his bill of lading, and *taken his oath*, that he had no *private trade* on board, nor any thing which was not contained in that account; they informed him what *duties* he must pay on

every article, before he should be permitted to land them.

My master, though he was sufficiently apprized of this before, affected surprize, and attempted to expostulate with them on the illegality, and injustice of such a demand, alleging that the goods had been purchased at the highest prices in order to send a speedy and effectual supply to the troops, who were known to want them, so that there could be no advance made upon them, which could defray such additional duties; that his owners, not in the least suspecting any such, had given him no power to pay them: and that many of the commodities being of a perishable nature, must be damaged if not permitted to be landed directly, by which means not only the merchants would be great losers, but also the troops suffer severely for the want of common necessaries, which they could not otherwise be supplied with.

But all he could say had no effect. They did not even deign to make him any answer, farther than that they had authority for what they did, and expected obedience, not arguments, which they had not leisure to listen to.

Such a repulse, however unjust in itself, and personally offensive in the manner of it, was far from giving my master any concern. On the contrary, the difficulties which it threw upon the business of his owners, afforded him an opportunity of carrying on *his own private trade* to better advantage, which no oaths they could advise were able to put a stop to, as an instance or two of his conduct will shew.

Some suspicion having arisen of his commerce with the sutler, of which no direct proof could be obtained, he was summoned to appear before the taxgatherers *to acquit himself by his oath*, of so heinous an offence.

The sutler, who knew the consequence of being

convicted, and with all his knowlege of the world saw no possibility of avoiding it, gave himself up as ruined: But my master soon shewed him the convenience of a conscience trained to swearing, for calling upon him the morning they were to appear at the dread tribunal, and seeing him so cast down, “Chear up, brother,” (said he) “I’ll bring you safe through this streight! by the virtue and contents of this book” (pulling one out of his pocket, and kissing it in form) “I will never swear that you have bought any thing from me; so throw off that sneaking, *Tyburn* look, and come along.

Such an assurance naturally gave the sutler some spirits; though he could not conceive how he meant to make it good; but a little time cleared up the mystery, and shewed him the force of a Custom-house oath.

As soon as the two culprits appeared before their judges, the latter assuming all the dignity of their office, exaggerated the charge in the strongest colours, and administering the oath to my master, demanded in an authoritative tone, whether he had not sold *uncustomed* goods to the sutler, and to what amount; who not in the least disconcerted either by the question, or the manner in which it was put, “Why look ye, gentlemen,” (answered he turning the *quid* in his cheek, and pulling up his breeches at the hips, with both his hands) “as to that affair, by the virtue of my oath, *if I should swear that I sold him any, I should be forsworn*, and I’ll always try to weather that point, if I can.”——

As there was no more than a general suspicion against the criminals, this answer satisfied the sagacity of their judges, and they were dismissed with flying colours.

When they were alone, “Well!” said my master, shaking his friend by the hand) “I told you I’d bring

“ you off. Let that be an example to you for the
“ future. *None but fools convict themselves; and none*
“ *but greater fools expect it.* I should have little busi-
“ nefs in the merchant’s service, if I scrupled swal-
“ lowing such a pill as that every day of my life! No!
“ no! they must be cunning if they can make an
“ oath, that will stick in the throat of the captain of
“ a merchant-man, even if he can’t find an opening
“ to steer through, as was the case here. We have
“ a *salvo* for such things. *The first oath we take as*
“ *soon as we get into employment, is never to swear the*
“ *truth to a Custom-house-officer, while we live; so that*
“ *all the oaths they give us go for nothing.*”

But with all his cleverness, he sometimes failed of success. A lieutenant of a man of war happening as he was *rowing guard* one night to see a boat put off from our ship, pursued it in hopes of making some reprisals for all the extortions he and his brethren daily suffered from any one concerned in trade, as he knew it must be a *smuggler*.

The hope of prize made the crew of the lieutenant’s boat pull with such spirit, that they gained fast upon the *chace*, which the other’s seeing, and that it was impossible for them to get clear off, they threw their cargoe overboard to disappoint their pursuers of their expected booty, and then ran the boat a-shore to save themselves from being taken, leaving her of course to the captors for their trouble, who towed her away in triumph.

The chief of the smugglers was my master’s son, who in the account he gave him of the affair on his return was proceeding to tell him the names of those who had been with him, when the father stopping him short, “Avast!” (said he) “Coil up your tongue.
“ I desire to have no more of them. Have you a
“ mind to make me forswear myself when I go to re-
“ cover my boat? For have her again you know I

“ must, as I can’t get another here, nor carry on
 “ any business without one.”——

Accordingly next morning he made a public enquiry after his boat, which he pretended had been stolen from his ship’s side, and finding her in the possession of the lieutenant, demanded to have her restored directly, and on his refusal had him summoned before the officers of the customs, who were judges in such affairs.

As he grounded his claim on her having been taken without his privity, and by persons unknown to him, he was put to the common test of an oath, Whether he knew who had been in her, when she was pursued by the captors. “ By the virtue of *my oath*, Gentle-
 “ men” (answered he without the least hesitation) *I*
 “ *do not know one of them.*”

So *direct* an answer satisfied the judges, who were no ways concerned in the affair; but that was not the case with the lieutenant: Hold, Sir!” (said he to my master, who was sheering off, laughing in his sleeve)
 “ What is that you say?”——

“ I say,” (answered my master, nothing disconcerted) “ That I don’t know *one* of them.”——

“ *One of them!*” (returned the lieutenant, who instantly saw through his evasion) “ But don’t you
 “ know *any* of them though? Take care what you say! Perhaps I know more than you think I do!”——

“ Why as to that” (replied my master laughing)
 “ I cannot say so much. Perhaps I may know some
 “ of them.”

“ How!” (interposed the judge, offended at an answer, which he thought shewed a slight to his authority) Did you not swear this moment, that you you did not know one of them?”——

“ No more do I!” (and answered my master) There
 “ were twelve in the boat, of whom I know only
 “ eleven; and sure in that case, I can safely swear I

“do not know *one*, that is *the twelfth* of them. Hah!

“hah! hah!”

“Take care, Sir, (replied the judge) how you attempt to trifle in this manner before us again.

“You know the punishment of perjury, if you should

“be caught tripping.”——

“Never fear!” (said my master) “I know the *compass* of my conscience too well for that. I can

“steer as near that wind as another. *Thus! thus!*

“*and no nearer*, is my trim. I’ll never break an oath;

“but if I can give it the *go by*, at the *lee-side* thus, by

“a double-meaning, I hope that’s no offence.”——

Then turning to the lieutenant, “Well, Sir!”

(continued he) “it seems *you have carried too much sail*

“*for me this trip! But if I meet you upon a wind again,*

“*mind your helm, or I may chance to fall aboard you.*

“However, since I can’t have my boat cheaper, I

“must e’en come to your terms, so what do you ask

“for her?”——

To this proposal the lieutenant made no objection:

Setting therefore his price, “Zouns!” (said my mas-

ter) “I believe you have no conscience at all, to ask

“a man so much, and for his own boat!——

At his mentioning *conscience*, all present set up a loud laugh, and repeated the word.

Nothing abash’d at which, “You may laugh as

“much you please (continued he) but my notion of

“conscience is not to ask out of reason, for any thing

“one has to dispose of; and so, Sir, if you have a

“mind to part with the boat, I’ll give you half what

“you ask; and I should think even that too much,

“but that I want her, and do not know where to get

“another.”

“And as I want to sell her, and do not know where

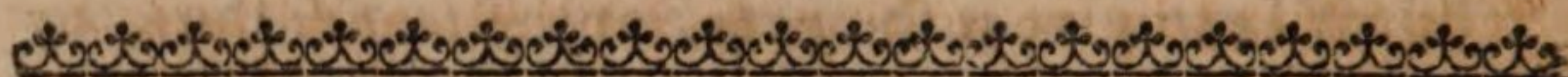
“to get another purchaser!” (answered the lieute-

“nant) “you shall have her. Not that I think she

“ comes very cheap to you upon the whole neither!

“ You have sworn well for her at least.”

“ As to that matter,” (replied my master) “ that
“ is my business, and not yours. Here is your mo-
“ ney; and that is all you need care for.”—Saying
“ this, he paid him for the boat, and then walked
“ off, without concern or shame.—I here quitted
“ his service, of which I was heartily tired, and en-
“ tered into that of the lieutenant.



CH A P. XVII.

CHRYSA L makes some reflections on the policy of imposing oaths of exculpation. The proper method of preserving the validity of oaths, with the consequences of their being administred indiscriminately to all persons, and on all occasions. An uncommon lecture from a captain of a man of war to his officers, represents some polite amusements in an odd light.

I SEE you are shocked at such flagrant instances of profligacy, of bare-faced contempt of every thing most sacred, and important. They certainly are a reproach to human nature; but that reproach must not be confined to those alone, who obviously incur it. They who from false principles of policy give the occasion, against the conviction of reason and experience, are at least equally guilty.

The impotency of man to resist temptation is such that he is taught to pray against it! Why then should those, who are intrusted with the care of directing his actions in the common intercourse of life, lay snares to lead him into it, which there is no probability of his avoiding?

Appealing to the attestation of the Deity, is most

certainly the highest assurance possible to be given by any being, who has a sense of his dependance on that Deity; nor should ever be given but on the most important occasions, and in the most solemn manner; nor accepted but from such as may be presumed to understand the nature of it.

In such circumstances it would never be violated. Man is not so desperately abandoned as to run with his eyes open into inexplicable perdition. But when that attestation is given lightly, for every trifle, when it is placed in opposition to interest, and demanded from such as cannot be supposed to know its consequence, the reverence which should be its guard is taken off, the violation becomes familiar, and of course, the end, for which it is thus impiously, and injudiciously prostituted, disappointed; and by that means the most sacred assurance of life rendered void, the bond of social confidence and safety broken.

The effects of this absurd policy of making the obligations of Religion the common test of truth on trivial occasions, and where interest is concerned, are more extensive than is generally imagined. The immediate wants of nature engross the attention of the greater part of mankind too much to let them see the congruity of moral virtue, however evident to exerted reason; wherefore the threats and promises of Religion were found necessary to enforce the practice of it: But as the accomplishment of those is placed at a distance, when they interfere with present enjoyments, their force wears off, the threats lose their terrors, and the promises are slighted by those, who look no farther than the instant moment; and this is the great source of that immorality and irreligion so prevalent in life, and which will never be corrected, *till legislators make oaths less common, prevent their interfering with the swearer's own interest, (as in the instance, which gave occasion to these reflections) ex-*

plain their nature before they are administered, and inflict instant punishment on their violation.

My new master had but just returned on board, when the captain received orders to go, and assist the operations of the war, in another part of the world. The news raised every one's spirits. The sight of a place in which most of them had been guilty of excesses, which threw them into distress, and where all had been so wretchedly disappointed, was necessarily disagreeable; and consequently a removal to another, where a new object attracted their attention from such reflections, and awoke new hopes, however likely to end in the same manner as the former, gave them pleasure.

There was a decency in the behaviour of both men and officers in this ship, so very different from what I had seen in others, as to strike me with an agreeable surprize. But I was not long at a loss for the reason. As soon as the ship was under sail, the captain summoned all his officers into the great cabin, and after some general instructions about their duty, "Gentlemen," (said he, addressing himself to my master, and another, who had been but lately appointed to his ship) "as we have never sailed together before, I must desire your attention to a few hints, which I always take the liberty to give, in such circumstances."

"We are now shut up together in a prison, where the unavoidable inconveniencies of our situation make all our care necessary to prevent its becoming insupportable to us. For this reason the first thing I recommend to you is, *not to game*. Beside the danger of disagreement when the passions are agitated by the vicissitudes of play, our pay is scarce sufficient for our support, so that the least loss must be distressing, the consequence of which must be general unhappiness, for who can see his

“ companion miserable, without sharing in his misery ?

“ There is another thing, against which, though not commonly considered in this light, I must earnestly caution you, as inevitably throwing a gloom over that cheerfulness of mind, which is the greatest happiness of life, and to us must supply the place of every other happiness, and this is *the vice of profane cursing and swearing*, to the reproach of our service too prevalent among us.

“ There is no man, however hardened in this detestable habit, but knows it to be a crime, and feels a check from within every time he is guilty of it, the repetition of which self accusation sours his temper, and him dissatisfied with himself, and every person and thing about him. For the truth of this I appeal to unvaried experience. Who ever saw a man serenely cheerful that was addicted to this vice ? (I might say indeed to any vice, but as our situation precludes us from the practice of most others, I mention these only, into which we may fall) for occasional mirth is a very different thing, and too often leads into consequences destructive of serenity of mind, especially when it is raised by means inconsistent with virtue.

“ I do not speak of the effect, which the practice of virtue has upon our resolution. The courage of a *Briton* can never be doubted ; but still there is as much difference between that of a virtuous, and a vicious man, as of the same person when sober, or intoxicated with liquor. The former is uniform, steady, and attentive to improve every advantage, or remedy any misfortune ; the other boisterous, headlong, and blinded with passion ; for passion only can make a man face death, who in the cool moments of reflection is afraid to die. In a word,

“ one is the courage of a man, the other the rashness
“ of a brute.

“ Against these two things therefore, *gaming* and
“ *swearing*, I take the liberty to caution you, as a
“ friend, who is sincerely desirous of your welfare ;
“ but there is another vice, in respect to which I do
“ not think myself obliged to observe the same deli-
“ cacy ; and this is *drunkenness*, which is liable to be
“ attended with such dangerous consequences in our
“ situation in particular, for I think it unnecessary to
“ mention any other, that I shall ever exert all the
“ authority entrusted to me to suppress it, and there-
“ fore it is but just for me to declare, that no officer,
“ who is once guilty of it under my command, shall
“ ever do duty under me more.

“ This, gentlemen, is what I had to say to you.
“ The observation, of these few hints will make us
“ happy among ourselves, and respected by our men,
“ without which it is impossible for us to be well o-
“ beyed by them ; for heedless and profligate as they
“ may appear, they are the severest critics on the
“ conduct of their officers, and not only like people in
“ higher stations, revere the virtues which they have
“ not resolution to imitate ; but also actually do imi-
“ tate them in a great degree.”

C H A P. XVIII.

The folly of a person's prostituting his character to please his company, aggravated by the dangerous mistake of ridicule for applause. CHRYSAL's master changes place with the chaplain, and preaches him an interesting sermon in which, among remarks more just than polite, he gives an uncommon reason for the particular deformity of vice in woman.

I HAVE already taken notice of the effect, which the advice and example of the captain had upon every one in the ship. The officers lived like a family of brother's, and the men did their duty with regularity and pleasure; but though all paid due respect to what he said, it was impossible to work such an instantaneous reformation, but that some of them would now and then jest among themselves upon his conduct, as from comparison with that of others of his rank, inconsistent with his character; and in other respects indulge in the levities of discourse and behaviour too general among persons not much accustomed to the rules of rational conversation.

But whatever allowances the circumstances of their education might claim for such fallies in the officers, the person who transgressed most was certainly entitled to none. This was the chaplain, who to avoid the imputation of being hypocritically sanctified, ran into the opposite extreme.

The selfish vanity of man always takes pleasure in seeing any person debase himself, by acting beneath his character, especially if that character is such as appears to be placed in a more respectable point of view than their own. The officers, who in general

look upon a chaplain as no better than lumber in a ship, and think he is placed as a kind of check upon them, were pleased with this prostitution, which he, by a common mistake of ridicule for applause, gave still farther into, *imagining they laughed with him, when in reality, they laughed at him.*

But my master beheld the matter in another light; and taking an opportunity one day, when the chaplain and he were by themselves in the ward-room, “I have
“observed with much concern, Sir, (said he) “that
“you are falling into an error, which I have known
“prove fatal to many gentlemen of your profession.
“This is departing from your character, in order to
“accommodate yourself to what you think the humour
“of your company. Believe me, Sir, no man ever
“did so, who do not immediately fall into contempt,
“with the very people, whose approbation he strove
“to purchase at so dear a rate. The greatest libertine
“despises a clergyman, who is a libertine; and the
“reason is plain, *You are set apart from the rest of man-
“kind to perform the rites of Religion, and inculcate virtue
“by your precepts and example; and for this you are paid
“by the public, who expect that you should earn your wages,
“by doing your duty; and look upon those who do not, as
“no better than cheats.”* This may appear an odd
“way of speaking; but it is true nevertheless.

“On the other hand, where a clergyman fulfills
“his duty, and enforces his preaching by his practice,
“though he may not absolutely reform all those with
“whom he converses, yet he will certainly work this
“good effect, that he will keep them in awe, and
“prevent their running into outrageous lengths of
“wickedness, at least in his presence. For whatever
“people may inconsiderately imagine, *no man ever
“acted in character, who was not respected; no man ever
“acted out of character who was not despised.*

“Do but reflect a moment, in what light you your-

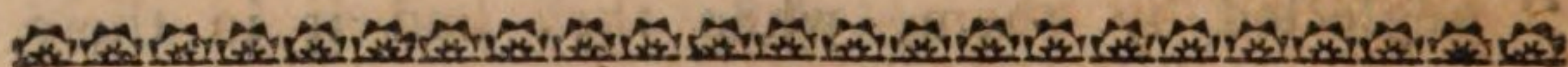
“ self would look upon a lady, who should speak ob-
 “ scenely, swear, drink and talk of fighting, and it
 “ will shew you the justice of this remark. For what
 “ makes these vices so particularly hateful in a wo-
 “ man, is not any thing in their nature particularly
 “ contradictory to the sex, more than ours, but be-
 “ cause they are contrary to her character.

“ I beg your pardon, Sir, for talking to you in
 “ this free manner, in respect to your conduct, which
 “ I am sensible concerns only yourself; but as the er-
 “ rors you have fallen into appear to have arisen
 “ merely from inadvertency, and mistake, I think it
 “ my duty to caution you against the danger of
 “ them, particularly in your present situation, with
 “ which I have had the opportunity of being much
 “ better acquainted, than you possibly can be. I
 “ was in the service long, very long, before you
 “ were born; and have been intimate with many
 “ chaplains but never knew one who prostituted his
 “ character to humour his company, who was not
 “ neglected by them, when they had it in their
 “ power to have served him; as on the contrary, I
 “ have known many instances of those who have
 “ reaped the happy fruits of a regular, and virtu-
 “ ous conduct, by which they acquired an esteem,
 “ that proved the foundation of their fortune; and
 “ if all have not been equally successful, their
 “ disappointment must be attributed to some other
 “ cause.

“ I would not by this be understood to advise you
 “ to a morose distance, and stiffness of behaviour, or
 “ asperity of reproof upon every occasion. They
 “ seldom, if ever, do good, in any situation; in yours
 “ they will certainly do hurt, by piquing false pride
 “ to act in opposition to them, without regard to the
 “ consequences. An obliging temper, and uniform-
 “ ly decent conduct lead insensibly to imitation, where

“ contradiction or direct admonition would be held
 “ impertinent. These hints are so obvious, that
 “ they may seem unnecessary; but it is want of at-
 “ tention to them which has made so many chaplains,
 “ miscarry in life, and indeed has brought the very
 “ character into disrepute.”

The chaplain, who wanted neither natural good sense, nor virtuous inclination, was struck with the justice and force of this rebuke. He thanked my master in the most ingenious manner, and promised to regulate his future conduct by his advice. Such a change at first naturally exposed him to the merriment of his companions; but as my master took his part, and shewed them the injustice of such behaviour, it soon wore off, and he had the heart-felt satisfaction to find himself treated with friendly respect and confidence by those, whose gross familiarity had before often given him pain, as it evidently implied contempt.



CHAP. XIX.

CHRYSALE describes true compassion; and shews the general consequence of a man's acknowledging distress, with the reasons of it. CHRYSALE's master is prevailed upon by the captain to tell him the cause of his melancholy, which is removed by an act of uncommon generosity. CHRYSALE enters into a new service.

AS the captain maintained the most friendly intercourse with his officers, he soon observed that my master laboured under some heavy distress of mind. This naturally raised his compassion, and as *real compassion never sees distress, which it is not desirous*

of alleviating, he frequently took occasion, when they were by themselves, to turn his discourse upon such subjects as he thought might lead him to open himself; but finding that modesty, or a reserve contracted from long acquaintance with misfortune, and observation that *the knowledge of a man's being in distress always sinks him in the esteem of his companions, by cutting off their hopes of service from him, and alarming their apprehensions of his expecting assistance from them*, prevented his taking the hint, he resolved to break through forms, and ask him directly.

Seeing him therefore one day walking the quarter deck, in a mood of deep melancholy, he called him into the great-cabbin, and desiring him to sit down, after a little general chat, "I fear, Sir," (said he) "that something hangs upon your spirits. If it is proper to be communicated, let me know what it is, and depend upon every assistance in my power to make you easy. I ask not from idle, or impertinent curiosity."

"Sir," (answered my master, struck with the manner in which he spoke) "I believe you above the influence of such motives, and shall therefore obey your kind commands without scruple. It is too true, that I am unhappy; and I fear my unhappiness is too common. I have devoted my life to a profession in which I have served my country above forty years with fidelity; and I will take the liberty to say with some success: and now when my constitution is broken with wounds, fatigue, and change of climates, when nature calls for rest, and refreshment, the only reward I have to expect is poverty, and its inseparable attendant, contempt. This, Sir, is the cause of my unhappiness; and such a cause, as I believe you will think it to be a just one."

"Very true, Sir," (replied the captain) it is a just

“ one; and what must affect every man of spirit,
“ and a generous way of thinking. But you should
“ not yield to it too far! You are still in the vigour
“ of life; and while the war continues should look
“ forward with hope. Though you have been
“ unsuccessful hitherto, fortune may prove more
“ kind.”

“ Alas, Sir,” (returned my master) “ I have been
“ so long cheated by hope, that I now detest it.
“ When I came out upon this last expedition, our
“ force made me so confident of success, and I was
“ so well acquainted with the wealth in the place,
“ that I unhappily gave way to hope, and ran into
“ expences, which though far from being unnecessary,
“ were imprudent, and threaten now to involve me
“ in ruin, on my return home, as it has been thought
“ proper by our superiors to rate our service in the
“ conquest, at so low a price.”

“ If that is the case then!” (said the captain) “ do
“ not return till matters mend. Whenever I am or-
“ dered home, I’ll take care to get you removed into
“ another ship. Your staying abroad on such an ac-
“ count is not inconsistent with the strictest honour,
“ as you do it with an intention truly honest.

“ Dear, Sir,” (answered my master) “ that is very
“ true; but I am precluded even from the wretched
“ relief of a voluntary exile. I have a wife, and chil-
“ dren at home, the apprehension of whose distresses
“ drives me to despair. It was to clothe and settle
“ them in a little habitation, where they might en-
“ joy the indispensable necessaries of life with some
“ degree of comfort, that I anticipated my success, in
“ the manner I mentioned; and now as that success
“ has fallen so far short of what I thought just expec-
“ tation, all the former savings of my life (savings
“ from the very necessities of nature) will be torn
“ away, by the rapacious hands of merciless creditors,

“ to make up the deficiency in the articles bought
“ of themselves to discharge their demands, and my
“ wretched family thrown upon the unfriendly world,
“ without its being in my power to assist them. I
“ must therefore return, and go into a jail to prevent
“ their starving in the streets. What affected myself
“ only, honest indignation enabled me to support. I
“ have seen boys, whose ignorance I despised, and
“ men whose principles I detested, preferred to com-
“ mand, while my services were over-looked ; but
“ as I had not the interest of the former, nor the
“ *modish merit* of the latter, I bore my fate with pa-
“ tience. But to have those dearer to me than life
“ exposed to misery is more than I can bear.—

“ Nor shall you bear it!” (replied the captain,
who had feigned to cough to hide the sympathetic
tear, that glistened in his eye) “ Nor shall you bear
“ it. How much is the debt, that alarms you ? I
“ will advance it for you directly ; and not that only,
“ I will take upon me to make your merit (to which
“ I am no stranger) known to your superiors, in such
“ a light as shall not fail of just reward.”

“ O Sir!” (returned my master, as soon as the
“ the fullness of his heart gave him utterance) “ How
“ can I submit to obligations, to which it is impos-
“ sible I should ever make any return ?”—

“ All the return I desire” (answered the captain)
“ is your friendship. Speak ! how much do you want ?
“ The Pacquet is yet in sight. I will order a signal
“ to be made for her, and give you a draught upon
“ my agent.”—

“ Good Heaven !” (exclaimed my master) “ Can
“ there be such virtue in man ?”—

“ Come ! what is the sum ?” (interrupted the cap-
tain, who wanted to shorten a conversation, that be-
gan to be too affecting to him) “ I shall think you

“doubt my sincerity if you hesitate to accept of my
“friendship.”——

“Such a doubt” (returned my master, whose heart
a gush of tears had lightened) “would be a blacker
“crime, than ever stained my soul! No! I receive
“your beneficence with humble gratitude, as from
“the hand of Heaven, nor will mention any other
“return, but what must be made to that, till it shall
“be pleased to bless me with better ability.

Then pulling out his pocket-book, “Here is the
“account of what I owe” (continued he, giving him
some papers, and a purse containing little more than
his share of the price of the smuggler’s boat :) “And
“here is all my worldly wealth, which is no more than
“an assignment of my miserable prize-money, and these
“few pieces of gold, thrown by fortune in my way,
“mostly since our hands were tied up by the capitu-
“lation. For the ballance I must be your debtor.”

“For the ballance!” (answered the captain, re-
turning the purse, and the assignment) “No! you
“shall be my debtor (if you will call it so!) for the
“whole. It would be strange friendship to strip you
“of every thing you may want yourself.”——

“Excuse me, Sir,” (interrupted my master, unable
to suppress the delicacy, the dignity of honour) “I
“am not so low a wretch, as to accept of more than
“I indispensably want; and that for persons dearer to
“me than myself. If you will not permit me to
“make the debt as light as I can, it is impossible for
“me to receive your friendship, however essential
“to the happiness of my heart. I am sorry you should
“have entertained so mean an opinion of me.—

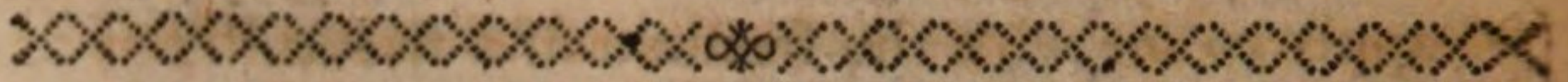
“I have the highest opinion of you!” (replied the
captain, who saw what pain he had given him) “and
“spoke in the warmth of my regard, without the most
“distant design of giving you offence. But you shall
“make your own terms, on this condition though,

“ that if you have any occasion for money, you will
“ apply to me with the freedom of a friend.”

To such a proposal, it was impossible to refuse assenting. My master complied, and the captain taking the money, &c. from him, desired that he would order a signal to be made for the Pacquet, and write his letters, while he himself should draw a bill upon his agent.—The sentiments expressed by the captain made it a pleasure to me to pass into his service on this occasion.

As soon as the lieutenant went out, my new master walked a turn or two about his cabin, in the exalted happiness of conscious virtue; and then drawing a bill for considerably more than the lieutenant was to pay, he desired that he should be called, and when he entered, “ I beg pardon (said he) for interrupting you,
“ but it is to desire that you will present my compliments to your wife, and tell her I beg she will accept of a trifling present from me, which I have
“ taken the liberty to include in the bill. Come! no
“ words! In this I will not be contradicted.”

“ O Sir!” (answered the lieutenant, catching his hand, as he reached him the bill, and kissing it eagerly) “ this is too much! My heart will burst.”—Saying which, he went out of the cabin, in a silence more expressive of his soul, than all the flights of eloquence.



CHAP. XX.

History of a lieutenant of a man of war. A comparison between the rewards of merit, in the land, and sea-services; with a remarkable instance of a great man's remembering an old friend. The consequence of attempting to set up for a mender of manners, and of a man's not meeting an opportunity of making himself remarkable.

WHEN every thing was settled, and the Pacquet sail'd, the lieutenant desired leave to wait upon my master; and as soon as he entered, "I come
 " Sir, (said he) to pay you the thanks, which the
 " fullness of my heart would not let me utter before.
 " You have raised me to happiness from the lowest
 " state of despair."——

" Hold, my friend!" (answered my master taking his hand, and squeezing it tenderly) " Speak no more
 " of it, I conjure you. I am abundantly overpaid for
 " what I have done, by the pleasure of having served
 " a man of merit; and shall think you repine at my
 " happiness in being able to purchase that pleasure, if
 " I ever hear the affair mentioned more."

To relieve the lieutenant, whom he saw oppressed with gratitude, he then changed the conversation to another subject, when the lieutenant shewed so much good sense, and solid judgment, that my master could not forbear expressing his astonishment, that such a man should have been so long unpromoted in the service.

" If you can have patience to hear the story of my
 " life (answered the lieutenant) it will soon explain
 " that difficulty to you. My father was an officer in
 " the army, who was rewarded for the loss of a leg,

“ and thirty years service, with the half-pay of a captain of foot. As he had a wife and children to maintain and provide for, he retired to a cheap county, where he lived in the most rigid œconomy in hopes of saving, for he could not make any thing, being precluded from every kind of industry, by the profession to which he had devoted his youth.

“ The first acquaintance a stranger gets in a country place is the parson of the parish. It was my father’s happiness to fix his habitation, where there was a clergyman who would have been a valuable acquaintance in any place, and who was equally happy, in the acquisition of a rational acquaintance in him. The common intercourse of neighbourhood was therefore soon improved between them into the strongest friendship, in the intimacy of which, as my father would often naturally mention his anxiety for his children, his friend persuaded him to breed me, the eldest to the sea-service, in which he thought he himself might be able to serve me, by his interest with several commanders, with whom he had been acquainted formerly, when chaplain to a man of war. That is the service!” (would the good man say, with pleasure sparkling in his eyes) That is the service in which merit is never disregarded. You would not have been laid aside after thirty years, to pine upon five shillings a day, if you had been bred to the sea. No! no! merit is all that is necessary there.

“ Such an argument was too flattering to my father’s hopes to be resisted. Though he felt the evil of not having been bred to business himself, he was charmed at the thought of his son’s being placed in the way of rising to an higher sphere, and readily assented to the advice of his friend, who not content with mere advice, insisted on taking me home with him, and giving me such an education,

“ as should qualify me to make a figure in the profes-
“ sion to which he had directed me. “ If ever a man
“ of merit in the sea-service (would he often say) fails
“ of rising, it is for want of having had a good edu-
“ cation to found his hopes upon. A mere seaman
“ may work a ship, but an Admiral should be a scho-
“ lar.”

“ How well this reasoning was founded experience
“ daily shews; though it would be ingratitude in me
“ to arraign it, as the little taste for letters, which I
“ acquired from his care, if it has not contributed to
“ my advancement, has at least enabled me to sup-
“ port the shock of disappointment, as well as to
“ avoid many evils, into which I have seen others,
“ who had not the same advantage, fall.

“ At sixteen, (for he insisted that it was most
“ wretched policy to turn a boy loose upon the world
“ before he had come to the use of reason, and was
“ well instructed in the principles of morality and re-
“ ligion, for the sake of gaining a couple of years
“ advance :) At sixteen, I say, I was sent to sea, pro-
“ vided with a chest of books, and mathematical in-
“ struments, and a good suit of cloaths, not to dis-
“ credit the recommendation which my best friend
“ gave me to an Admiral, with whom he had been
“ most intimate, when a lieutenant; and whose rea-
“ diness to serve him in any thing, he would not ad-
“ mit a doubt of.

“ On my presenting my letter, the Admiral at first
“ had forgot the name, but recollecting himself at
“ length on my mentioning some circumstances which
“ I had often heard my friend dwell upon with plea-
“ sure, “ Very true,” (said he) “ I remember him
“ now. He made the best bowl of punch of any man
“ in the navy.”——

“ This was all the notice the *great man* took of
“ him, or of me on his account, except I should add,

“ that on his captain’s observing I should make a good
“ figure on the quarter deck, I was directly rated a
“ midshipman ; a favour for which I soon found I was
“ indebted to his caution of sending me well dressed,
“ much more than to his interest.

“ Though I felt this disappointment of my first
“ hopes very severely, on my friend’s account, as well
“ as my own, I could not think of shocking him with
“ the news, but saying in general terms that I had
“ been well received, resolved to apply myself to my
“ business, and try whether I could not deserve that
“ favour, which he had failed to procure me.

“ As I had been accustomed to conversation very
“ different from that of those, with whom alone I
“ could now converse, I took every opportunity,
“ when off duty, of running to my books. But the
“ relief I found from this was for the present over-
“ ballanced by the general ridicule, into which it drew
“ me ; especially as I not only avoided obscenity,
“ swearing, and drinking myself, but had also been
“ so imprudent as to rebuke others for them. I was
“ immediately nick-named *the parson*, and avoided by
“ every one in the ship.

“ I need not describe to you the situation of a *petit*
“ officer, insulted by those below him, ridiculed by
“ his equals, and looked down upon with contempt
“ by his superiors, who forgot they ever were in his
“ station themselves. I bore it for fifteen years, at
“ the end of which time, having the good fortune to
“ be sent to London, with a press-gang, on purpose
“ to mortify me, for I always disliked that particular
“ duty, more than any other in the service, on seeing
“ an advertisement in the news-papers, that all who
“ were qualified by their standing to be lieutenants in
“ the navy, should attend to pass their examination,
“ I offered myself without any other introduction, or
“ interest, and was appointed to a ship.

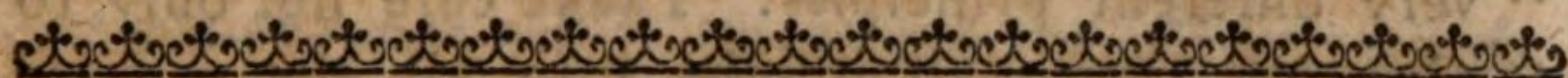
“ In this station I have done my duty for five and
“ twenty years, without reprehension ; but as I have
“ no *corporation interest* to push me at home, none of
“ the *modern polite accomplishments*, to recommend me
“ to the favourites of fortune, whom I occasionally
“ meet in the service, nor have ever had the good
“ luck to find an opportunity of making myself re-
“ markable, by any action of *eclat*, though in itself
“ no more than a successful blunder, my uniform
“ conduct and care have passed unnoticed, and I re-
“ main a lieutenant still.”

The circumstances of this story affected my master in the strongest manner. He took the lieutenant by the hand, and desiring him not to despair, repeated his promising of using all his interest to serve him, of the success of which he had no reason to doubt.

Nothing particular happened during our voyage. One instance though of my master's conduct in his military capacity I cannot forbear mentioning, as it shews his character in the strongest light, which was, that he never interfered in the business of his officers, but if he happened to see any thing which he disapproved, instead of interposing his own authority publicly, and giving contrary orders, he always spoke privately to the officer on duty, and giving his direction under the appearance of advice, let the alteration proceed as immediately from him, by which means he spared him the pain of being found fault with before the men, and consequently lessened in their opinion.

This delicacy not only endeared him to them all, but also contributed greatly to advance the service. For as every officer knew that he should have the credit, or bear the blame of his own actions, they all exerted themselves with the utmost ardour ; whereas on the contrary, where a captain is continually interfering, and leaving nothing for his officers to do, they

grow careless of course, and do nothing, as they know he will arrogate to himself the merit of success; if they do not even take a malignant pleasure in any miscarriage, the blame of which they have so just an opportunity of throwing upon him.



C H A P. XXI.

An uncommon method of carrying on a war; with the danger of speaking the truth too plainly, at an improper time.

CHRYSALE's master meets his brother. Some account of him. He represents certain matters in an odd light. CHRYSAL enters into his service. Conclusion of his character. CHRYSAL quits his service on an uncommon occasion, for one, from which he passes in the usual course of business into that of the general.

WHEN we arrived at the place of our destination, we found the shore covered with an extensive incampment, and every thing wearing the appearance of the most active war.

The first thing my master did was of course to wait upon the General, whose operations he was sent to assist. He met him viewing an occasional fortification, which he had caused to be raised to train his army to the method of making regular sieges and attacks; and marking out a piece of ground to be sowed with vegetables to correct the bad effects of the salt provisions, which his men had lived upon in their passage thither and preserve them in health.

The account he received from my master of the heavy loss sustained in the expedition from which he had just come, gave him visible pleasure, as it seemed to set his own conduct, which was diametrically the

reverse of that observed there, in the most advantageous light.

“ I wonder” (said he, looking around him with an air of conscious exultation) “ how officers can reconcile it to themselves to throw away the lives of their men, in such a manner ! For my part, I act upon very different principles. I take care not only to give my troops an insight into all the various branches of the military art, but also to keep them in such health as may enable them to reap the advantage of their experience. There is nothing so bad in war as participation. It was the cause of the late General’s defeat and death,”——

“ Yes !” (interrupted an officer who stood near, and had hearkened to him with evident impatience) “ Delay is full as bad. Your troops want neither health nor experience to conquer every opposition they can possibly meet : and will accomplish the end they were sent upon before your cabbages are fit for them to eat, if you will but lead them against their enemies, and not give them time to retire with their effects into places, whether it is impossible for an army to pursue them, while your men waste their time and spirits in the foolish parade of mock battles, and sieges, till they lose their ardour by delays which can answer no end, but that of protracting the war, and thereby lengthening a lucrative command.”

Such an attack was quite unexpected, and struck the General with equal surprize and indignation, as it touched him in the tenderest part ; however, dissembling his passion, of which he had an absolute command, “ I would have you to know, Sir,” (said he) “ that I think it the highest assurance in you to attempt censuring my conduct, who are sent merely to execute my orders, When I ask your opinion, it will be time enough for you to give it, till then,

“obedience, not advice, is what I expect from you.
“If I did not hold it beneath me to shew resentment
“to one so absolutely subject to my power, you should
“instantly find the effect of this insolence. But pre-
“sume not on that protection any farther, as you
“regard your safety. No man provokes me with im-
“punity.”

“N—n—nor me!” (sputtered the officer, whose temper, hot as that of the General was cool, caught fire at the faintest shadow of offence, and flamed almost to madness, as soon as rage permitted him to articulate a word) “Nor me—m—me. I seek no
“p—p—protection but my sword, with which I will
“v—v—vindicate my own honour, and make good
“what I say.—Talk to m—m—me of safety, and
“im—p—punishment!”

The affair now became serious, these words striking at the General's safety, as well as his honour, and convincing him that he must support his dignity by a vigorous effort. “What!” (retorted he, therefore, with a tone and air of offended authority) “Do you
“menace me too? I suppose you design to raise a mu-
“tiny in the army, but I'll prevent that.”—Then turning to an officer who attended, “Take that mad-
“man away” (continued he) “and put him under a
“guard, till he recovers his reason. Such behaviour
“must not go unpunished.”—Then addressing himself to my master with an affected unconcern, as above being moved by what had happened, while the other was led away speechless and convulsed with rage, he politely invited him to dinner, an honour, however, which my master declined accepting that day, as he was most impatient to see his brother, who bore a principal command in the army under the General.

The meeting of these brothers was truly affecting. The instinctive connection of nature had been

indissolubly cemented between them by the sacred bond of friendship founded on a sense of mutual virtue.

Actuated by the same principles they had both devoted themselves to the profession of arms, in the different services of the land and sea, as if to avoid the jealousy of rivalry, each being determined to let no competitor take the lead of him in the road to honour.

Undebauched by affluence, and disdaining to waste his youth at home in luxury, when the cause of his country called for his assistance, the elder bravely came to seek for glory in these inhospitable wilds, with as much ardour as my master pursued it on his proper element, in order to earn honours which he might transmit to his own posterity, equal to those which his brother inherited from his illustrious ancestors.

When the tender enquiries of affection were reciprocally answered, my master gratified the curiosity of his brother with a particular account of his late dearly bought success, closing the black detail with some remarks on the different conduct of the General of this army, which were much to his advantage.

“Your reflections, my dearest brother,” (answered the officer) “are most just, as things appear to you. But when you have had an opportunity of seeing farther, I fear you will find reason to change your sentiments, and that the *delay* here proceeds at bottom from the same principle with the *precipitation*, which produced such terrible effects with you, and Heaven grant it produce not as bad. Interest is the object every where; and whether that is pursued by sacrificing the forces in rash and ill-conducted attempts, to gain an immediate PRIZE, or by letting them melt away in inaction, to accumu-

“ *late the* PROFITS of command, makes no difference
 “ in the end.

“ I would not be understood from this to justify
 “ the officer for arraigning the General’s conduct,
 “ in so public, and personal a manner. Such ungo-
 “ verned warmth is inexcusable. Proper respect must
 “ be paid to those who bear authority, or the effect
 “ of that authority ceases ; indeed it is not to them,
 “ but to him who delegates the authority, the re-
 “ spect is paid. A General at the head of an army
 “ represents his sovereign in the plenitude of his
 “ power, and to suffer any slight to be shewn to his
 “ delegated character, were to betray the trust of
 “ that delegation.

“ For this reason, I think his punishment was ne-
 “ cessary and *therefore* just ; I wish I could add that
 “ it was equally so from the injustice as from the cir-
 “ cumstances of the accusation, which occasioned it ;
 “ but to any one who will not shut his eyes it must
 “ appear beyond a doubt, that his great crime was
 “ speaking too much, and too plain truth ; for with
 “ all our boasted care for the preservation of the
 “ men, their distresses are such as have not left me
 “ a penny in my pocket, for I cannot shut my hand,
 “ where my heart is opened. In short, I am so sick
 “ of the whole scene, that I have solicited the com-
 “ mand of a detached party, with which I hope to
 “ shew that the native bravery of *Britons*, when led
 “ with spirit, requires but little experience to
 “ enable them to conquer more formidable foes,
 “ than naked savages, led by a few wretched *French-*
 “ *men*, in a condition not much better. I set out
 “ to-morrow morning, and think it a particular
 “ happiness that you have arrived time enough for
 “ me to have this interview with you.”

The rest of their conversation is not necessary to

be repeated, as it turned upon their own domestic concerns. This much only it is but just for me to observe, that it shewed their conduct in the intercourse and relations of private life to be as amiable, as that in their public capacities were exalted ; and proved that moral virtue is the best foundation for true heroism.—My master's brother having in the course of their conversation intimated his having some present occasion for money, I here entered into his service.

You may judge that I remained not long in the possession of my new master. His brother had no sooner left me, than he paid me away, among a large number of my fellows, to a merchant for some additions, which he thought it necessary to make at his own expence to the provisions made by the public, for the support and comfort of his men, through the fatigues and inconveniences of a campaign in an uninhabited country.

The sentiments expressed by my master, in the effusion of his soul to his brother, shewed his character in the justest light ; I shall therefore only add, that as he acted from principles firmly established on the invariable basis of reason, there was no danger of his deviating from the paths in which he set out.

So bright a prospect made it a pain to me to quit his service so suddenly ; but I have since met many mortifications of the same kind, my stay being always shortest, in the best hands.

My continuance, though from another motive, was not much longer with my next master, the merchant, who in the common course of soliciting permission for a ship of his to sail with a cargoe, that must be ruined by delay, an embargo having been laid on all the shipping in the place, in the un-

fathomable wisdom of the ruling powers, to promote some unintelligible plan of service, gave me to the General's clerk, from whom in the same course of business, I came into the service of the General.

END OF THE FIRST BOOK.

H 2



CHRYSA L:

OR, THE
ADVENTURES

OF A
GUINEA.

BOOK THE SECOND.

CHAP. I.

CHRYSA L's master makes some characteristic reflections. He is surprized at the officer's refusing to make up matters ; and gives a particular reason for some people's rising in the world. An extraordinary personage enters to him. Description of him. He gives a character of the native AMERICANS ; and offers some interesting remarks on the return they make to the treatment they meet with ; and on the practice of forming in the closet, plans of operation for armies in the field. Odd reason why the AMERICANS are desirous of gold. CHRYSA L changes his service.

WHEN I entered into the possession of my new Master, he was waiting in his tent, with the most anxious impatience, for the return of a person whom he had employed to meditate as of himself, be-

tween him and the officer, whose presumption in daring to find fault with his measures he had thought proper to punish in the manner I just now mentioned.

His reflections on an affair that struck so dangerously at his pride and avarice, the ruling passions of his heart, could not be very agreeable; but the sight of the money gave them a more pleasing turn. Having asked the clerk a few questions in the way of business, and dismissed him, he took the purse, and weighing it in his hand, "Aye!" (said he with delight glistening in his eyes) "this will do. This embargo was a lucky thought. Let who will complain of the hinderance it is to the business of the public, it advances mine; and that is all I care for. I came here to serve myself, and not the public; and as there is neither plunder nor contributions to be got by activity, I must try what I can do another way. I shewed my dexterity at hunting Savages in the mountains of my own country; and have no desire to renew the chase here. It was necessary for me then to do something that should make me remarkable, and gain favour with those, who I saw must prevail in the end, and therefore I spared no trouble nor fatigue, neither friend nor foe, to convince them of my attachment; and in reward they have now given me this command, in conducting which I must use delay to reap the advantages of my former activity. *Fabius* saved *Rome* by delay; let me but make my fortune by it, and I envy him not his fame. I prefer this sound" (chinking the purse) "to the empty noise of public acclamation, the shouts of a giddy mob, who bless and curse with the same breath, and without knowing whey they do either. No! no! no! this is the music that charms my ear."

His meditations were broken off here, by the gen-

tleman he waited for, who informed him that the officer would come to no terms of accommodation ; nor even accept of his liberty till he should be acquitted by a court-martial, and have justice done him for the affront offered to his honour.

Such an account was far from being agreeable to my master, who for obvious reasons wished to have every thing go on as quietly as possible, After some pause, “ This is a damn’d affair,” (said he) “ but “ we must now e’en make the best we can of it. Who “ could have thought that a countryman of my own “ would have proved so refractory. We have always “ been remarkable for hanging well together. *One “ and all* was the word, or we could never have done “ such great matters. If it is once found out, that “ we can be divided, we shall soon lose our consequence ; and every man be reduced to *the poor prospect of depending on his own merit*. However, since “ he will not accept of his liberty here, he shall e’en “ go home a prisoner, and recover it there as well as “ he can. I am of the right side ; and don’t fear “ but my friends will bring me through more than “ this ; especially as it is a national concern to us all “ alike. In the mean time, we must double our diligence to make hay while the sun shines.”

The gentleman, who was all in his secrets, acknowledged the force of his reasoning ; and was going to communicate to him some new strokes of management, when word was brought to my master, that a person, to whom he could not properly be denied, desired to see him.

There was something in the whole appearance of this person that struck me with the strongest curiosity the moment I saw him. His stature, above the common size of man, was form’d with the justest proportion, and denoted ability to execute the most difficult attempts, which the determined and enter-

prizing spirit that animated his looks could urge him to. His open countenance, in which humanity and reason attempered resolution, shewed the genuine workings of his soul; and his whole deportment was in the unaffected ease of natural liberty, above the hypocritical formality of studied rules of behaviour, devised only to deceive.

As soon as he entered, "I am come, Sir," (said he, throwing himself carelessly into a chair, and cutting short all that parade of ceremony, on the punctilious observation of which my master prided himself not a little) "to receive your orders. It is time, I should
 "join my people, who grow impatient, as the enemy
 "have begun to stir; and I never chuse to baulk
 "their first ardour. There is nothing like taking
 "men in the humour to fight; and before they have
 "time to consider too much about it."

"I design, Sir," (answered my master, with a solemnity, and affectation of politeness, which made the strongest contrast to the blunt freedom of the other)
 "to call a council of war very soon; at which I shall
 "be glad of your assistance, to form a plan of operations for the campaign. When that is done, and
 "all proper measures concerted, you shall set out.
 "*Precipitation* is very dangerous; and directly contrary to the principles of the *regular art of war*, by
 "which I mean to proceed. The Savages shall find
 "some difference between my conduct, and, that of
 "my predecessors. They shan't surprize me on
 "my march; nor draw me into an ambush, among
 "woods and mountains."

"As to the art of war, Sir," (replied the other) I
 "know no more of it, than what Heaven and common sense have taught me, which is to find out the
 "enemy, and beat them as soon as I can, my plan for
 "which is always directed by present circumstances;

“ nor do I know how one can be formed to effect, any
“ other way.

“ Your exploits have always been well executed :”
(returned my master with an air, and tone of importance, as designing to say something that should raise him in the opinion of the other) “ But you have hitherto acted rather in the low sphere of a *partisan*,
“ than as a general. The duty of a general comprehends much more than what you mention, as you
“ shall have an opportunity of learning before we take
“ the field. I intend to go through a regular course
“ of military operations to instruct my officers, and
“ discipline the men. Your *Heaven-taught* generals
“ may beat the enemy ; but that is the least part of
“ the care and duty of a general now-a-days. The
“ very least part.”——

“ And pray, Sir, how much time will this course of
“ operations take up ?——

“ I cannot exactly say ; but not above a month or
“ two, I imagine.”——

“ A month or two ! why, Sir, I hope we shall have
“ done the most troublesome part of our work by
“ that time ; or else I do not know what may be the
“ consequence. For, to be plain with you, these
“ delays will never do with the *uncivilized Americans*,
“ who judge of things only by common sense ; and
“ cannot be made to comprehend this way of carrying
“ on a war, by lying still in a camp and doing nothing.
“ They have formed very disadvantageous
“ notions of the delays already made ; and think a
“ man who does not advance to fight his enemy is
“ afraid of him ; and therefore if they are not led to
“ action directly ; they will desert, so that if I stay a
“ month or two here at school to learn a lesson I may
“ never have occasion for, I must find other forces to
“ put it in practice with ?——

“ Cannot you devise any reason that may account
“ for your staying, to their satisfaction?—

“ Really, Sir, not I ! I never was good at devising
“ reasons, destitute of truth, in my life ; and have
“ entirely forgot the practice since I have conversed
“ with the *Americans*, who are far from being such
“ fools, as they are too generally thought to be.
“ Though they have not the advantages of learning,
“ they see by the light of natural reason through all
“ the boasted wiles of policy ; and as they never mean
“ deceit themselves, detest it in others, however spe-
“ ciously disguised ; nor ever place confidence a second
“ time, where it has been once abused.—

“ How ! the *Americans* never mean deceit ! Surely
“ you must know better ! they are the most perfidious
“ deceitful Savages, that burthen the earth ; and it
“ would be an advantage to the world, if the whole
“ race of them was extirminated.”

“ Such of them as converse much with *civilized*
Europeans, it is too true, learn many things from
“ them, which are a disgrace to their own *Savage* na-
“ ture, as you call it. But I speak of the general dis-
“ position of the people. Treat them with candour,
“ probity, and tendernefs ; and they will return them
“ tenfold, in all their intercourse with you ; as on
“ the other hand, they seldom fail to retort the con-
“ trary treatment with severe usury. Nor are they
“ to be blamed. In all their dealings with the *Euro-*
“ *peans*, they find themselves imposed upon in the
“ grossest manner ; in a manner not fit to be prac-
“ tised even with brutes. Their sensibility is quick,
“ and their passions ungoverned ; perhaps ungovern-
“ able : How then can it can be wondered at, that
“ they make returns in kind, whenever they find any
“ opportunity ; and become the most dangerous ene-
“ mies ? Whereas if those passions were attached by
“ good treatment, they would be the most affectionate

“ steady, and careful friends, I speak from experience.
“ I treat them as rational creatures; and they be-
“ have as such to me. I never deceive them; and
“ they never deceive me. I do them all the good
“ offices in my power; and they return them mani-
“ fold. In short, I practise to them the behaviour
“ which I wish to meet from them, and am never dis-
“ appointed. All the evils which have been suffered
“ from them have proceeded from the unhappy error,
“ of thinking ourselves possessed of a superiority over
“ them, which nature, that is, Heaven, has not gi-
“ ven us. They are our fellow-creatures; and in ge-
“ neral above our level, in the virtues which give real
“ preheminance, however despicably we think of, and
“ injuriously we treat them.”——

“ They are much obliged to your character of them
“ at least; whatever others may be. And pray, Sir,
“ what is it you would have me to do, to preserve
“ the good opinion of these most *virtuous people*?

“ I presume not, Sir, to say what is proper for you
“ to do. All I desire is that you will dismiss me di-
“ rectly, in a capacity of making good my promises
“ to my friends; and by the time you say you shall
“ be ready to move with the army, I hope to give a
“ good account of the enemy.”——

“ That, Sir, I have no thought of. However, as
“ you are so desirous of going. I shall not delay you.
“ I’ll form a plan of operations for you this very day.”

“ For me, Sir? I do not understand you. How
“ can you know what will be proper, or possible for
“ me to do, at the distance of many hundred miles,
“ in a country you are an utter stranger to. In *Eu-*
“ *rope*, where war, like a game of chess, is *played*, as
“ I may say, entirely by art, that method of planning
“ in the closet the operations of the field may do per-
“ haps; but then it is necessary that each side should
“ play the game by the same rules. A body of *Ame-*

“ *ricans*, who know nothing of the art of war but
 “ fighting, might be apt to move so irregularly, as to
 “ disconcert the whole scheme of the *game*. Indeed,
 “ by what I can judge of the matter, that very me-
 “ thod of planning the operations of a campaign is
 “ advantageous only to the general, as it prolongs the
 “ war, and consequently the emoluments of command,
 “ by tying up his hand from availing himself of any
 “ unforeseen circumstances, in his favour. Whereas
 “ if armies were sent out only to fight, as formerly
 “ before the *improvements* in the art of war, the dis-
 “ pute would soon be decided, and even the vanquish-
 “ ed better off, than the victors are at present, whose
 “ riches and strength are so exhausted by this dilatory
 “ way of proceeding, that they are not the better for
 “ their success. I hope, Sir, you do not take offence
 “ at the plainness of my speech. I have so long been
 “ accustomed to converse with *Savages*, who speak just
 “ what they think, that I am become quite a stranger
 “ to that *disimulation*, which is called *politeness*, among
 “ *civilized* nations; and must make use of words,
 “ in their original intention of conveying my
 “ thoughts.—

“ Not in the least, Sir! I like your free manner
 “ much. It is in the character of a soldier. I will
 “ order every thing to be got ready for you directly;
 “ and you shall go as soon as you please; at full liber-
 “ ty to act as you see proper.”—

“ I hope, Sir, I shall not make a bad use of that
 “ liberty. And pray, among the other things, do
 “ not forget to order me some money.”—

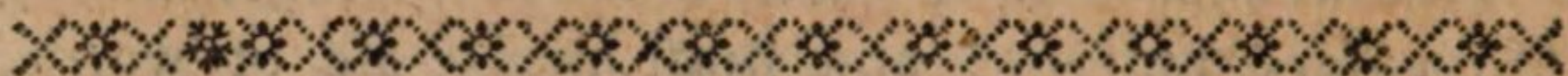
“ Money, Sir! What occasion can you possibly
 “ have for money, among *Savages*, who do not know
 “ the value of it?”—

“ Why really, Sir, that question is natural. But
 “ the matter is, the *Savages*, who come among the
 “ *Europeans* see every thing governed by gold, in such

“ a manner that they have taken it into their heads,
 “ we worship it ; and therefore are become as eager
 “ for it as ourselves, in hopes of gaining an ascen-
 “ dency over us, when they have got our god in
 “ their possession.”

A conscious heart takes to itself more than was ever meant. The dry manner in which this was said touched my master to the quick, and made him not desire to pursue the conversation any farther with such a free speaker, nor have so nice an observer longer about him, to pry into the motives of his actions. Giving him therefore the money he required, he wish'd him success with a forced politeness, and dismissed him to prepare for his departure.

It was a pleasure to me to change my service on this occasion ; as the idea I had conceived of my new master, both from his appearance and conversation, promised me some variety, and my curiosity was heartily surfeited with the regular art of war.



CHAP. II.

The manner in which CHRYSAL's master was received by his subjects. Antiquated principles on which his authority was founded. His odd opinions and conduct in some important matters, with the consequences.

AS soon as every thing was ready my master set out for home, where he arrived without meeting any thing remarkable in his journey, as you may suppose, through uninhabited desarts.

The reception he met with from his people was the very reverse of what *Sovereigns* usually meet. They welcomed him with sincere joy and respect, which they expressed in the overflowing of their hearts, with-

out ceremony or parade : I say, “Sovereigns,” as he really enjoyed that power in its most rational sense, his will being a law to all around him, *because they always found it just, and advantageous to them.*

Though the account which he gave my late master of his manner of treating his people shewed a just foundation for his power over them, I found that it depended not on that alone. His authority, like that of the first rulers of the earth, was founded also on the relations of nature, and supported by its strongest ties, he being literally the father of his subjects, the king of his own family.

To explain this it is necessary to inform you, that on his fixing his residence among these *uncivilized* nations, in order to gain an influence over them the more readily, he had laid aside all such rules of conduct as seemed to him to be contradictory to natural reason, and the public good, however forcibly enjoined for particular convenience.

Among these the chief was the custom of restraining the commerce between the sexes, and confining individuals to each other, after the desire which first brought them together had ceased ; as he saw that the strongest passion which governs the human heart is that desire, (for his philosophy was not refined enough to suggest one thought of governing the passions) and as the continuation of the species depends entirely on the gratification of it, he held every opposition to it to be most criminal in itself, and detrimental to the public good, (properly the first object of every civil institution, and which can be promoted no way so effectually, as by promoting population) and therefore exerted all his influence to encourage that commerce, under such restrictions only, as were evidently necessary to procure the great end of it, the propagation of the species. He gave liberty to every man to converse with as many females as he

pleased; and to quit them whenever he thought proper, provided they were not pregnant. To the women the former liberty could not be extended, as the use of it would defeat the design; or, where it had not immediately that effect, cause confusion, and prevent both paternal care, and filial duty, by the uncertainty of descent: But the latter instance they enjoyed equally with the men, being allowed to chuse whom they liked, and if not pregnant quit them at pleasure, for others, without reproach or shame, the offspring of all which connections were to remain with the fathers.

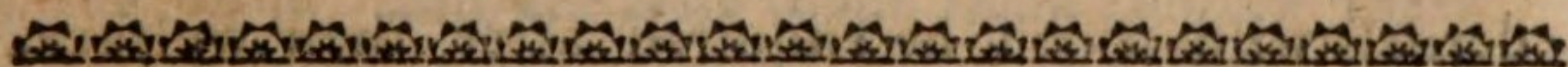
I shall not say whether reason originally suggested this system to him; or (as is often the case) whether he sought for reasons to support the dictates of inclination. Be it which it would, the effect was the same. His subjects encreased in an uncommon degree; and he founded, like the patriarchs of old, an authority on the justest of all principles, voluntary consent, over a people inseparably linked to him, and to each other, by the strongest ties of nature, as being by this complicated commerce in the strictest sense one family; for disdaining to make laws for others, which he would not observe himself, (like too many of his brother legislators) he had enforced his precepts so powerfully by his example, that there was scarce an house in any of the tribes around him, from which he had not taken a temporary mate, and added a child of his to their number.

That his reception, as I have observed, should be most cordial from such subjects is not to be wondered at. They flocked about him on his arrival, and hailing him with one voice by every tender relation of nature, brother, father, son, husband, shewed an affection too sublime to be expressed by formal rules, and impossible to be seen without sympathizing in it.

When this tribute was paid to nature, he called the

elders of the people together, and distributing among them the presents which he had received for that purpose, gave them an account of the mighty army sent by his Sovereign against the enemy, and proposed to them to assist its operations.

There required not many arguments to confirm their confidence, in one who had never deceived them. They readily and sincerely assented to his proposal, and sending to invite all their neighbours to join them, separated to make the very little preparations necessary for persons who were strangers to luxury, and knew no wants but those of nature.



C H A P. III.

CHRYSALE describes his master's habitation and family.

He makes an uncommon progress. The manner in which he found the females of his household engaged. Remarks on FINERY. Account of their amusements, with the manner in which they usually ended. The method by which CHRYSALE's master kept peace in his family.

AS soon as my master had thus concluded the business of his public character, he retired to devote a few minutes to his domestic concerns.

His habitation was built on an eminence by the side of a rivulet, the banks of which were covered with a number of neat little cottages, inhabited by the females of his present family; for instead of attempting to prevent their quitting him for other men, as inclination led them, he not only always dismissed them with presents in the most friendly manner, but also kept up an intercourse of regard with them and their successive husbands, every one of whom he attached to himself in the strongest manner, being

particularly ready on all occasions to do them every good office in his power.

In these cottages they bred up their children, and enjoyed from his care, all the necessaries of life with more convenience and comfort, than they could possibly have experienced among their own people, unimbittered by any of those jealousies and feuds which such a situation might seem to threaten, so equally did he dispense his favours among them.

When he had given some orders in his house, he walked out to visit his family, and enjoy the sublimest instance of the happiness of power, in making all who were subject to it happy, by the unaffected tenderness with which he enquired after their welfare, and returned their caresses, on his entering every cottage.

The appearance of these females was most different from the delicate sensibility that softened the beauties of * *Amelia*, or the fire which animated the charms of *Olivia*; but custom, that reconciles all things, had made them agreeable to him, especially as no comparison could there be made to their disadvantage; and the honest readiness with which they met his addresses, the warmth with which they shared his joy, amply over-ballanced any imaginary defect in feature or complexion; any ignorance of those affected arts of coyness, which overacted often pall the taste for long expected pleasure.

As his women did not expect his visit so soon, he found them engaged, according to their different inclinations, either in the management of their domestic œconomy, or in such amusements as custom had made pleasing to them. The occupations of the former kind were necessarily confined within a narrow circle, from the circumstance of their lives; but in

* See Vol. I.—Chap. iv.

the latter, fancy, sole sovereign of the scene, asserted her unbounded rule, and sported in variety of forms, many of which I soon had an opportunity of seeing.

As my master proceeded in his patriarchal progress, he met a considerable number of the females of his family, with such of the neighbouring men, as from age or idleness were unfit for more useful employments, assembled together under a spreading tree, that grew before the door of one of their cottages, dressed out in their gayest apparel, and engaged in different kinds of diversions. At the sight of him they all arose, and would have desisted, but he prevented them, and not only made them resume their sports, but also sat down himself, in the midst of the company, to be a spectator of them.

It seems it was a custom among them to meet frequently thus at each others cottages, for the pleasure of enjoying their favourite amusements to more advantage together, and displaying their *finery*, to set off which, no art nor care was neglected on these occasions. They dressed themselves in their best blankets, which were covered all over with patches of various colours to make them look more gawdy. Their heads were adorned with plumes of feathers. Strings of glass-beads were rolled around their arms and legs. Their toes were loaded with rings of pewter and brass; and their necks and faces were carved with figures of birds and flowers, and painted of various hues.

I see your laughter moved at this description; but that proceeds from narrow prejudice, and want of rational reflection, on which it would appear that all useless ornaments are equally just objects of ridicule, whether made of silks, and laces, or parti-coloured rags; whether bits of glass, or pearls and diamonds. Think, I say, but for a moment; and you will see

that in reality there is nothing more absurd in wearing one kind of metal, or upon one part of the body, than another, *rings of brass*, for instance, *on the toes*, than *golden on the fingers*; in *carving the skin*, than *boring the ears*; or in *painting the face blue and green*, than *white and red*. The same vanity is the motive of all, and all produce the same effect and admiration; as in things equally unsupported by reason, custom and caprice bear equal sway. The difference in the means therefore makes none in the end; at least none to the disadvantage of the persons of whom I speak, as it certainly is more absurd to lavish treasures, that might be so much better employed, to a worthless purpose which cheaper bawbles would answer as well.

The amusements, in which they were engaged, were as whimsical as their dresses. Some skipped about, describing various figures in their motions, till want of breath and weariness obliged them to sit down. Others, and these the greatest number, were employed in chucking shells or pebbles from the brook, into holes dug in the sand, for prizes of bits of tin, or brass, which game they applied themselves to with the greatest eagerness and anxiety, and many were so expert at, as to strip their antagonists of all their hoards, often indeed not without the assistance of chicanery and deceit: And a few of the eldest, and those who had nothing to stake at play, gathered up and down into little sets, and entertained themselves making remarks upon the rest, not always dictated by good-nature or truth; while the mistress of the cottage busied herself in adjusting ceremonials, settling her company at their several amusements, and serving them with milk, or broth, and tobacco, the fatigue of which office she never repined at, as her consequence was established by the number of her guests.

Though meer amusement was the obvious end of these meetings, other objects were generally pursued, and other consequences produced by them. Intrigues were commenced, and often compleated; and trifling as the prizes were for which they contended, emulation and avarice agitated the passions, and set the competitors together by the ears, till they almost clawed out each others eyes.

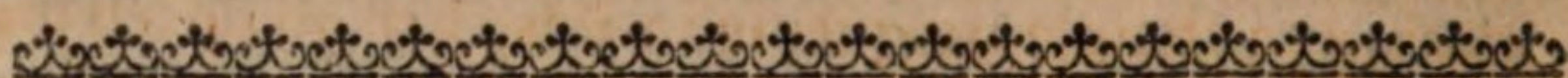
Their sports were at length beginning to take their usual turn. The tempers of the losers became soured; and the detection of some *deep* strokes of play gave rise to altercations, which would soon have been followed by blows; but my master interposed his authority and put an end to their disputes, when the party broke up; some retiring to keep the affignations they had made in the warmth of their inclinations, and the rest to calculate their winnings, or devise schemes for retrieving their losses, at their next meeting; and my master having singled out the happy favourite of that night, repaired with her to his own habitation, without any of the rest taking offence, or even particular notice of the preference, as they had it in their power to supply their loss elsewhere.

I have observed your astonishment at this whole scene, especially at my master's hardness in expecting to be happy among a number of women, and attempting to keep them in order together, when one, in your opinion, is more than any man can manage; but what will it be, when I tell you that that number often amounted to hundreds; and that he never had recourse to any kind of severity, in his conduct to them?

To comprehend this, it is necessary for you to consider, that most of, if not all the uneasinesses which imbitter the life of man arise from an officious intrusion to the uneasinesses of others, or an over-

weening partiality to himself, that makes him expect treatment, which he does not give, and take offence where none is meant him, for matters not worth his being offended at ; an observation that will hold in every state public and private ; among *governors*, as well as *governed*.

His rule then was never to take part in their disputes among themselves, nor offence at their infidelity to his bed, of which he himself set them the example. This disarmed them of that *perverseness*, which is the sex's most offensive weapon. They remained constant to him, because they were not restrained from being otherwise, whenever they pleased ; nor did they trouble him with their disputes, because they saw he would not be troubled at them.



C H A P. IV.

CHRYSAL's master is honourably rewarded for his services. An unexpected meeting with one of his countrywomen, introduces an uncommon remark on a common matter. The lady gives an odd instance of conjugal love ; and refuses the civil offer of CHRYSAL's master, for a natural reason. CHRYSAL changes his service.

THE very next morning his people assembled before his door, in readiness to obey his commands, when he led them directly in quest of the enemy, sharing himself in all their fatigues, and teaching them to despise danger by his example, so little did he know the duty of a general.

It would be tiresome to enter into a particular description of an expedition, carried on among wildernesses, and desarts, and consisting chiefly of ambuscades, and surprizes. It is sufficient to say that he

was successful in all his enterprizes, reason and presence of mind serving him instead of experience, in the regular art of war; and courage well supplying the place of discipline in his men.

Such services could not miss of reward, from a just, and judicious Sovereign. His power was enlarged; and he received those marks of favour and distinction, which were originally instituted to excite virtuous emulation, and set the seal of honour on successful merit; though like most other human institutions, they too often produce the contrary effect, and reflect only disgrace, from being bestowed contrary to their intention, and on unworthy objects.

As he was preparing the way thus for the motions of the main army, whenever the general should think proper to let it move, some of his people brought before him an *European* lady, whom they found wandering in those unfrequented wilds, her guide having mistaken his way.

Such a situation necessarily entitled her to his compassion and assistance; but he soon felt himself still farther interested in her favour, when he found she was a native of his own country, and of a family not entirely unknown to him, before he came to fix his abode in this distant part of the world.

There is not a stronger instance of the force of that attachment, called in a larger sense *patriotism*, than the instinctive affection which persons of the same country, though utterly unacquainted before, feel for each other the moment they meet in a strange place. My master instantly called her his dear country-woman, and embracing her with the tenderness of a brother, led her away to his own tent, which he resigned to her, as the best accommodation he could give her; and then went and ordered every thing that had belonged to her, which his men looking upon as fair prize had taken and divided among themselves,

to be restored, promising to recompense the captors himself.

As soon as she had adjusted her appearance, in some better manner, she sent to desire my master's company, for he had told her that he should not come without permission, for fear of intruding improperly upon her; and on his expressing wonder what could have brought her thus in the midst of those desarts so far away from every *European* settlement, she gratified his curiosity with the following account, which was often interrupted by sighs, tears, and every expression of the most poignant grief.

Her husband, (she said) who had been an officer of distinguished rank in the *English* forces, had fallen in one of the defeats they suffered in the beginning of the war, before *England* had exerted herself in such a manner, as to entitle her to success; the news of whose death affected her so extraordinarily, that she resolved to brave all the fatigues and dangers of so long a voyage by sea, and journey through uninhabited desarts in time of war, for the melancholy pleasure of one last view of his dear remains, which she had accordingly obtained, though not so much to her satisfaction as she could have wished, the body being in a state of putrefaction, not possible to be approached without disgust and abhorrence; nor to be distinguished from any other mass of corruption, when she had caused it to be dug out of the grave, in which it had been buried on the spot where he had been killed, among the other victims of the day; and was now returning home, when she had happily been found by his people.

Though my master was as much unversed in the regular rules of politeness, as of war, good-nature taught him the essentials of one, as reason had of the other. He heard out her story, though not without pity and contempt at the extravagance and folly of it;

and consoling her with some general remarks on the error of indulging immoderate grief, for things not to be remedied, offered to send her under a sufficient escort to his own habitation, where she might remain in safety, and have the conversation and attendance of his women, till the conclusion of the campaign, when he would convey her himself to the next sea-port, in order to her returning to her own country.

Though she would have looked upon any attempt to console her, as the highest affront in another situation, her present circumstances made her think it not proper to shew any resentment of it to him; beside, there was something in his appearance, that some how made it less disagreeable from him, than it would have been from any other person; and would possibly have influenced her to accept of his offer, had not the mention of *his women* alarmed her delicacy, and set her virtue on its guard.

Resolving therefore to have this cleared up, before she would give any direct answer to his offer, she expressed her high sense of his kindness in the politest terms; and entering into a general conversation, among other questions of mere curiosity, asked him in a careless manner, whom he meant by *his women*, and in what capacity they served him?

Such a question was more than he desired, though he had inconsiderately laid himself open to it. However, as he thought no delicacy could justify his deceit, he answered her directly and without preface, that they served him in the natural capacity of women, while they pleased to continue with him; nor did he desire any other service from them.

Though she was a good deal disconcerted at this answer, she had the address not to seem to understand it, in hopes that he would take the hint, and explain himself into a meaning less offensive to her modesty;

to give him an opportunity for which, "I presume, Sir," (replied she) "you mean that they wait upon your lady, or perform the other domestic offices of your family, in which women servants only are employed?"

"No really, madam, (answered he) that was not my meaning. I have no lady for them to wait upon; nor do they live so immediately in my own family, as to have any domestic employment in it."

"How, Sir! Are you not married?"

"Not particularly to any one person, madam."

—"That's very strange!" (said she, pleased at having gained so material a piece of intelligence, and resolving to pursue the conversation.) "That is really very strange. And, pray, Sir, are these ladies *Europeans*? I suppose" (sighing heavily and wiping her eyes) "they are the unhappy widows of such officers as have fallen in the service, to whom you have shewn the same politeness and humanity, as I now experience from you."

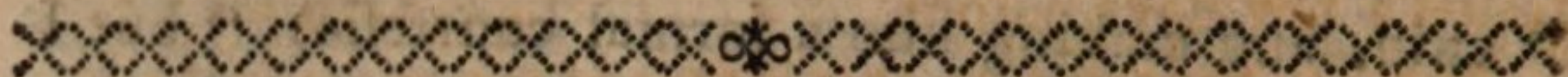
"I am sorry, madam," (answered he, to satisfy her curiosity at once, and put a stop to questions which began to be troublesome) "to be obliged to undeceive you in an opinion so favourable to me; they are all native *Americans*, by whom I have had children; and in whose unfeigned affection, and easy complying tempers I find such satisfaction, that I never shall quit them to attach myself solely to any one woman, however superior to them in the advantages of beauty and education; not, indeed, that they want qualifications to raise both love and esteem, as you will find when you have been some time among them."

This, which was too plain for her to affect not to understand it, instantly put an end to the pleasure she had begun to find in his conversation, and determined her as to his proposal. "I am much obliged to you

“for your civil offer, Sir,” (said she, bridling up her chin, and making him a formal courtesie) “but I cannot accept of it. I have not the least desire for the conversation of *Squaws*, and am in haste to leave this savage place; for which reason I shall take it as a favour, if you will send some of your people to guard me to the next *English* settlement to-morrow morning. At present I am quite exhausted with fatigue, and want some rest, if the distress of my heart will permit me to take any.”

This thought recalled the remembrance of her loss: She burst into a flood of tears; and my master withdrew, after finding that his attempts to console her, only aggravated her grief, and gave offence to her delicacy.

Unversed as he was in the ways of the polite world, he was too well acquainted with the ruling principles of the sex, which in every state are the same, not to see through this change in her behaviour; but the discovery had no other effect, than to confirm him in his contempt for such hypocritical levity. Accordingly, finding she continued in the same mind next morning, he made the best provision he could for her journey, and sent her away with a sufficient guard, forcing upon her a purse of gold, (*in which I was*) to defray any accidental expence, for which she might be unprovided, in case she should not directly meet a ship ready to carry her to *Europe*.



CHAP. V.

CHRYSALE's mistress gives some striking instances of female consistency. She is cured, of her grief by a person of accomplishments as extraordinary as her own. The advantage of comparative excellence. CHRYSALE's mistress marries, and he changes his service for that of an old master.

AS soon as my mistress found herself out of sight of my late master, she gave vent to that indignation and rage of disappointment, which she had thought proper to suppress, while in his presence. “Insensible brute!” (said she) “Not quit his odious
“*Squaws* for any woman! And to have the rudeness
“to tell me so to my face! It shews his gross, low
“taste, for which such animals are fittest.”

Then pausing for some moments; “What a charming figure!” (continued she, sighing softly) “Such
“a size! Such strength and ease in every motion!
“And then the manly beauty in his looks! Had I
“but the polishing of him! I was too hasty. I should
“have waited to insinuate myself into his heart by
“degrees. I could not have failed of success. My
“husband was as strongly attached to another when
“first I undertook him. Oh! dearest, best of men!
“Never shall I meet your fellow! Never shall an-
“other possess your place in this faithful, wretched
“heart.”——

A flood of tears here interrupted her meditations, which were often renewed in the same strain during her journey, and always ended the same way.

On her arrival at the sea-port, she had the mortification to find that she must wait some time for a pas-

sage home, all the ships which were there, having failed a few days before.

But her vexation at this disappointment was considerably lightened by the conversation of several companions in it, particularly that of a chaplain of a regiment, who had taken such offence at the immorality of the army, and the uncomfortable way of living in those savage countries, that he had hired a substitute, at a cheap rate, to do his duty, and was returning home to enjoy a life more agreeable to the delicacy of his character and inclinations, and exert his talents to more advantage in paying court to his patrons, than in reforming soldiers or converting savages.

Extremes are never lasting: The violence of my mistress's grief had been too much for nature to support, and was beginning to abate of itself, when my late master awoke another passion, that would soon have supplanted it; and though he did not pursue his advantage, as far as he might have done, he had opened her heart, and inspired a warmth ready to receive any other impression.

As the chaplain's function, and her rank, not to omit the accomplishments of both, seemed to point them to each other as the most proper companions, it was not strange that they should soon grow intimate, nor that their intimacy should be insensibly improved into a tender passion. They made *rête-à-tête* parties, at games which no one else in the place knew how to play with them. They talked of all the places of pleasurable resort in England, and of the amusements pursued at them: And they raised their own consequence in the eyes of each other, by boasting of acquaintances with persons they know only by name.

Such uncommon accomplishments were not without effect. Each took the tales of the other upon credit, because their own met the same complaisance; and

found a pleasure in being deceived, by one whom it was an equal pleasure to deceive.

But this was not the only thing that advanced their mutual influence upon each other. All human excellence is but comparative. Though far from being beautiful, they were the nearest to being so; though far from being well-bred, they knew most of the common ceremonies, in which good-breeding is by many thought to consist, but which really are the incumbrances of it, of any persons there; and consequently appeared to enjoy those advantages in the highest degree. They regulated the assemblies, they laid down the rules of play, they made fashions; in a word, their opinion was the law in every matter of polite amusement and concern.

Thus *cut out* for each other, it was impossible for this accomplished pair, not to come together. They were accordingly married, not more to the grief of their respective admirers, than the joy of their rivals, the bride forgetting her grief for a dead, in the arms of a living husband, and the happy bridegroom pleasing himself with the thought that the high accomplishments of his lady would encrease his interest with his noble patrons.

To crown their happiness, in a few days after they were married an *English* man of war put in there, in its way home, the captain of which politely offered them their passage. Such an opportunity was not to be missed: They accepted his offer with the greatest joy, and in return made a *party* and entertainment for him, when he won *me* from my mistress at a game of *brag*, the only game indeed at which he thought himself a match for her.

Though I had no reason to regret leaving her service, my present change gave me no great pleasure as it wanted even the recommendation of novelty, my new master being the captain, with whom I had left

the *Spanish* coast, who had at length been made so happy, as to be ordered home.



CHAP. VI.

CHRYSALE arrives in ENGLAND. His master is saluted by a sight not very pleasing. The history of the unfortunate hero of the day opens some mysterious scenes. THE OBVIOUS USE OF COUNCILS OF WAR.

(CHRYSALE's master having in the course of his voyage home given offence to his officers, by his prudential regard to his own safety; to obviate any bad consequence which might attend their complaining to his superiors, he resolved to employ CHRYSALE's mediation in his favour, as soon as he should arrive in ENGLAND.—Vol. I. Chap. x.)

His arrival in *England* presented him with a scene, that confirmed this resolution, and made him wish he had not been in such haste to return. On his entering the harbour, he found the boats all of the men of war there drawn up around one ship, in which was displayed the dreadful signal of the execution of the commander. The sight appalled his soul, conscience anticipating the stroke of justice, and taking this as an omen of his own fate.

He had not time to brood over these gloomy reflections long, when an officer came on board him with an order to attend the execution in his boat, along with the other captains, which he obeyed, in a state of mind scarce less unhappy than that of the criminal.

As soon as the bloody work was done, he waited on the chief commander, where the melancholy, in every face he met, was far from relieving the anxiety of his mind. He could have no pleasure in such com-

pany. When he had answered a few general questions of course, he went away to the ship of a captain of his intimate acquaintance, to learn some account of this shocking scene, for he had not had resolution to make any enquiry about it; nor even to attend to the conversation of every one around him, which would have explained the whole.

After mutual congratulations on their meeting, my master signified his curiosity, which his friend promised to gratify *over their bottle*, as soon as they should be alone after dinner.

Accordingly, when *the coast was clear*, “ You desire information in an affair (said he) that has given our corps the deepest wound we have ever received. The circumstances are many, and mysterious; but I will strive to give you a notion of it in as few words as possible, for it can be no pleasure to either of us to dwell upon such a subject.

“ In the beginning of the war, soon after you went to *America*, the unfortunate man who has this day fallen a sacrifice to the humour of the times, was sent out with a fleet to counteract the schemes of the enemy, and relieve a fortress of ours which they were then besieging. (This was the purport of his *public orders*; but it will appear to you presently, that he must have received *private* ones, of a very different nature, from those who at that time had the conduct of affairs.)

“ Instead of making the expedition necessary to have carried his orders into execution with effect, he trifled away the time here, in such a shameful manner, using every frivolous excuse he could devise to delay his departure, that the voice of the public was raised against him; and it was found necessary to appoint another to the command in his place in order to silence their clamour; but unfortunately for him, he failed the very day before his

“ pointed successor was to have set out to supersede
 “ him.

“ The same dilatory conduct threw a damp upon
 “ every thing he attempted to do. He seemed re-
 “ solved upon nothing; but though he was invested
 “ with the fullest powers to act as he saw proper him-
 “ self, called councils of war to deliberate upon
 “ every the most trifling occasion, that he might
 “ have the sanction of their advice to excuse his ne-
 “ glect, and often direct disobedience of his orders;
 “ for you well know, that *a council of war always*
 “ *speaks the sense of the commander.*

“ One instance of his proceeding in this manner
 “ will be sufficient to justify this remark. He had
 “ been ordered to call at another fortress in his way,
 “ take from thence a reinforcement for the garrison
 “ of that which he was sent to relieve: On his arri-
 “ val there, instead of demanding that reinforcement
 “ peremptorily as his orders impowered him, and
 “ making the expedition, which the urgency of the
 “ occasion required, he shewed such indifference to
 “ the enterprise by his delays, and expressed such
 “ diffidence of his success, that the commanding
 “ officer took the alarm; and following his example,
 “ called a council of war to consider whither he should
 “ send it, which on mature deliberation he absolute-
 “ ly refused, on account of the danger of weakening
 “ his own garrison, in case it should be attacked;
 “ whereas, it was notorious that could never happen,
 “ if this unhappy man did his duty, as the force he
 “ had was sufficient to keep the command of the
 “ sea, and prevent any such attempt. But far from
 “ urging this he quietly acquiesced in the officer's ex-
 “ cuse, and sailed away without the reinforcement,
 “ for which alone he had been ordered to stop there.

“ On the same principles, when at length he came
 “ in sight of the place, the siege of which was pushed

“ with the greatest vigour, he excused his sending any
“ relief to it, on a pretence of the danger of entering
“ the harbour, as if any military operation could be
“ free from danger, and sailed away to seek a fleet
“ of the enemy, which was coming to assist the
“ siege, and which he came up with sooner than he
“ wished.

“ An engagement now was unavoidable ; but, still
“ he had it in his power to prevent any effect from it
“ which he notoriously did, by trifling away his time
“ in vain unnecessary *manœuvres*, and pretending to
“ come to action at a distance too great for him to do
“ any thing.

“ The enemy, whose interest it was to avoid an en-
“ gagement, in which their most sanguine hopes could
“ not promise them success, availed themselves of
“ this conduct, and made their escape, after having,
“ from the superiority which his *keeping aloof* in this
“ manner gave them, treated very roughly a part of
“ his fleet that had advanced with less caution, and
“ come really to action.

“ This served him as a pretence for calling a coun-
“ cil of war next day, by the advice of which instead
“ of pursuing the enemy, who had evidently fled from
“ him, or making any attempt to relieve the fortress
“ which was besieged, obviously the first object of his
“ being sent out, he returned directly to the other,
“ from which he was to have taken the reinforce-
“ ment, as I mentioned before, to defend that from
“ the danger brought upon it solely by his own con-
“ duct, leaving the former, deprived thus of every
“ prospect of relief, to take its fate ; and giving up
“ the honour of his country by flying from an ene-
“ my, whom he might have vanquished, and who
“ had fled from him before.

C H A P. VII.

Continued. Consequence of the foregoing conduct. An extraordinary sentence attempted to be reversed in an extraordinary manner, and by as extraordinary persons. The reason of this; and why it miscarried. More mysteries. Just fate of the BUNGLERS, who left their poor TOOL in the lurch; with the consequence of this affair to a certain corps.

“ **T**HE consequence of so strange a conduct was,
 “ the nation took fire, and with one voice de-
 “ manded satisfaction for such a sacrifice of their in-
 “ terest and honour. He was therefore not only de-
 “ prived of his command, but also sent home a pri-
 “ soner; and after suffering every indignity and a-
 “ buse which the rage of a licentious populace, bro-
 “ ken loose from all bounds, could suggest, brought
 “ to his trial, found guilty of *neglecting to do all in his*
 “ *power to destroy the enemy*, and for that crime has
 “ this day suffered the sentence of the law; a sen-
 “ tence not more unexpected by him, and extraordi-
 “ nary in itself, than in the manner it was passed;
 “ and afterwards attempted to be reversed, by those
 “ who had passed it, when they reflected on the dan-
 “ ges of establishing a precedent, that might one
 “ one day come home to themselves.

“ For persuaded (perhaps by their knowlege of
 “ the true motives of his conduct) that nothing more
 “ was meant by the trial, than to amuse the public,
 “ they resolved to act their parts in the farce, and
 “ found him guilty, as I have said, of such a part
 “ only of the charge against him, as common sense
 “ could never conceive punishable with death, it be-

“ ing impossible to acquit himself absolutely of the
“ whole, without involving themselves in his guilt,
“ by which means, they expected to save both his
“ life, and their own credit. But such *trimming* sel-
“ dom answers; *the tables were now turned*; and it
“ was resolved to carry even this lame sentence into
“ execution, with the utmost severity.

“ Alarmed at a measure, so contrary to their ex-
“ pectations, his judges were driven to their wit’s
“ end; and from a provident regard to *themselves* left
“ nothing unattempted to save *him*. They retracted,
“ as far as was in their power, their own judgment!
“ they petitioned the ministry! they applied to the
“ whole body of the legislature. They prayed! they
“ expostulated! they wept! but all was in vain. His
“ fate was determined; and they only drew upon
“ themselves that contempt, which such inconsistency
“ deserved.

“ From this general account of his conduct it must
“ have appeared to you, that he acted by *secret* orders,
“ directly opposite to his *public* ones, as no man how-
“ ever prostituted in principle, however, infatuated
“ by fear, (neither of which, it was well known,
“ was his case) could otherwise possibly have acted in
“ such a manner, the inevitable consequences of
“ which were disgrace and death. But if any doubt
“ should remain on your mind, from the inconsist-
“ ency of man’s actions at different times, the least
“ attention to the following circumstances will ef-
“ fectually remove it.

“ Repeated informations of the enemy’s design upon
“ that place had been sent to those in power, for a
“ considerable time before; but no notice was taken
“ of them to reinforce the garrison? or even order
“ the officers, regularly belonging to it, to attend
“ their duty, till the siege was actually begun; when
“ this unfortunate man was sent, but so late, that

“ the common impediments of contrary winds might
“ very possibly have delayed him so long as to defeat
“ the design of his going, even had he exerted him-
“ self with the greatest ardour.

“ Had it also been really intended that he should
“ reinforce the garrison, a force proper for that pur-
“ pose would have been sent directly from home,
“ without subjecting him to the further delay of stop-
“ ping for it at another place, where it might not be
“ to be spared, as proved to be the case.

“ And lastly, had he not had secret reasons, which
“ he thought sufficient to justify his conduct, it is not
“ to be imagined that he would have wasted the time
“ before he sailed ; that he would have accepted the
“ refusal of the commanding officer of the fortress,
“ from which he was to have taken the reinforcement,
“ that he would not have attempted at least to throw
“ some relief into the place ; and that he would not
“ have fought the enemy’s fleet, when he had the
“ fairest prospect of defeating it ; for the tenour
“ of his former life acquitted him as I have observed
“ of all suspicion of cowardice, or traitorous corre-
“ spondence with the foes of his country.

“ His conduct at, and after his trial, confirmed these
“ remarks. Depending on support, from those in
“ power, he neglected the only measure, prudence
“ could have suggested for his defence, which was to
“ have retorted the charge of his miscarriage upon
“ his very accusers, and perplexed the cause with
“ such a variety of matter about *disobedience to signals,*
“ *and breach of discipline,* as to blind the world, and
“ bewilder his judges, so that they should be glad to
“ have acquitted him, if only to get rid of the plague
“ of the enquiry ; a method, which experience had
“ shewn to be effectual, in as flagrant a case as his.
“ And even after he was condemned, his behaviour
“ proved that he expected a pardon to the last mo-

“ ment, for a crime which he had committed in obedience to their orders. Why he did not produce those orders, in his vindication, must have been, that they were only verbal ones ; which in the blind lust of ministerial confidence and favour, he had been weak enough to take.

“ The reason of his being so basely deserted is too obvious. The administration of those, who had employed him, had been such a series of blunders, (not to call it by a severer name !) that they had not only been supplanted by another set, who promised better things ; but were also obliged to give him up, *as a sin-offering* to the rage of the people ; as protecting, or pardoning him would have implied a participation of his guilt : And in this light the other party viewed it so strongly, that they exerted all their strength to have saved him, in hopes of being able by his means to gain a clue, to guide them through some of those labyrinths of iniquitous and false policy, which they suspected, but could not otherwise detect, to the entire overthrow of their rivals.

“ This so absolutely reversed the whole scene, that they who would have supported, now found themselves obliged to crush him, in their own defence, which as it was the most popular measure, they were still able to do.

“ There is but one thing more necessary for me to add ; and that is the motive for their giving him such secret orders ; which, as far as reason can judge in such dark, confused mysteries, must have been this.

“ Provoked at the repeated insults, and injustice of the *French*, the ministry here had precipitately plunged themselves into a war, without being prepared, or even determined to pursue it ; and then like a parcel of children who have exhausted all

“ their strength and resolution, in one spiteful assault
 “ stood in a state of stupefaction, utterly at a loss how
 “ to proceed, or retreat; till roused at length by the
 “ preparations and menaces of the enemy, they un-
 “ luckily blundered in their fright upon the wretch-
 “ ed expedient of letting them take this fortress,
 “ that for the recovery of it, they might have a pre-
 “ tence for giving up to them those places about
 “ which the dispute began; and so *botch up* a peace
 “ any way, to get rid of a war, they found themselves
 “ unable to manage.

“ The consequence of this notable stroke of policy
 “ was, the spirit of the people was inflamed to such
 “ a degree, by this disgrace upon their arms, that
 “ they have pushed on the war with a resolution,
 “ little short of madness; and the scheme, which the
 “ ministers had so wisely laid for their escape, only
 “ sealed their ruin.

“ This, my friend, is a short but just sketch of this
 “ unfortunate affair, to which I shall only add one
 “ circumstance to prove what I said of his being *sa-*
 “ *crificed to the humour of the times.* The officer who
 “ commanded in the fortress which was besieged, and
 “ who in the defence of it had betrayed a want of
 “ every qualification necessary for such an office, *but*
 “ *courage*, and had even let that be over-ruled by the
 “ instances of his officers, who were tired of fatigues
 “ and dangers from which they saw no prospect of
 “ relief, to surrender it at last, without any absolute
 “ necessity, was loaded with honours of every kind
 “ in reward of a merit merely negative at best; that
 “ is for not having done the very worst in his power,
 “ and surrendered it at first, without making any de-
 “ fence.

“ I have thus gratified your curiosity, in the best
 “ manner in my power. If I have made any mistakes,
 “ they are not those of intention; but have proceed-

“ ed from the inability of reason to trace such myste-
“ rious actions to their real motives. One observa-
“ tion though, I know, I cannot be mistaken in,
“ which is that this affair has given *a wound to our*
“ *corps*, (as I observed before) *which it can never reco-*
“ *ver*. For after such an example, what officer, of
“ any rank, can expect to escape should he neglect to
“ do his duty, in the fullest manner, however power-
“ ful his private motives to the contrary may be?

“ For my own part, I cannot say it yet affects me
“ much. I am poor; and therefore must push. If I
“ ever have the good luck to be other, I know the
“ consequence; and will rather quit the service, than
“ hazard being shot, as I know must be any man's
“ fate, who shall hereafter be found to fail in the per-
“ formance of his duty, from a prudential regard to
“ the preservation of his life, or fortune; however
“ great that fortune, or powerful his family.” And
“ *so here's to you, neck or nothing* is now the word.

The effect which this whole account had upon my
master may be easily conceived. He *pledged* his friend
though without naming *the toast*; and assenting to his
remarks, by an heavy sigh, took his leave without
saying a word.

C H A P. VIII.

CHRYSAE changes his service. He gets a view of a court of CIVIL JUDICATURE, on an extraordinary occasion. Some reflections out of the common cant on the delays of the law. A whimsical application of an old story produces the strange effect of putting a counsellor out of countenance. The necessity of absolute power in some government; with a common decision, by which nothing is decided.

“AS soon as my master turned to his ship, he
 “A took me from his purse, once more, and
 “looking earnestly at me, for some moments, “We
 “must part!” (said he, with a sigh) “we must part!
 “but I hope to good purpose. Thou only wast the
 “cause of that conduct, which now gives me fear;
 “exert therefore thy influence equally, where I now
 “send thee; and thou wilt excuse my fault, if it is
 “one.

“Tears, at the thought of losing me, here choaked
 “his utterance. He gave me a last kiss, and sent me
 “directly away, in company with a considerable num-
 “ber more, to mediate his peace.

“As the delicate nature of this transaction required
 “some address, he entrusted the management of it to
 “his purser, who had convinced him, by many in-
 “stances, of his sagacity in the methods of obtain-
 “ing an influence over the great *.”

My new master's road leading through a city, where
 a matter of great moment was under judicial deter-
 mination, he waited for the event to gratify a natural
 curiosity.

* Vol. I.—Page 5. Chap. xi.

The affair was this. A *fore-mast-man* in a *guard-ship*, lying in one of the neighbouring harbours had by repeated misbehaviour in going clandestinely on shore contrary to the express orders of his captain, provoked him at length to give him *a dozen at the gang-way* in order to terrify others from following his example.

Instead of being reclaimed by this punishment, the fellow persisted to misbehave in such a manner, that the captain, who was remarkably humane in his disposition, discharged him from the ship to avoid the pain of punishing him any more.

This was just what the wretch wanted. Accordingly he went directly to a prostituted, *pettifogging* attorney, who had before set him on the scheme; and employed him to sue the captain at law, for an assault, in punishing him in the harbour, where he had no power so to do.

In a country governed by laws, they must regularly take their course, in every instance however flagrant in its particular circumstances.

After all the preliminary delays of practice, which grievous as they may in some circumstances be to an individual, are yet the safety of the public, the affair was now brought to a legal decision. You are too well acquainted with *the forms of law* to require a minute account of all which were observed in this case. But there was one incident which I cannot pass over.

As this was a matter that importantly concerned the interest of the navy, the rulers of it had ordered all the captains of the *guard-ships*, in the harbour where it had happened, to attend the trial, in order to inform the court, in the usages of their service.

One of those, who had never seen a court of *civil judicature* before, but was a man of natural good sense, and some reading, having listened to the unin-

telligible pleadings, and gross exaggerations of *the counsel* on both sides of the question, especially *those hired* in the prosecution, till his patience was quite exhausted, at length arose, and having obtained permission from the judge to speak, addressed himself to the court in these words.

“ I am sent here by those, to whom the King has
 “ entrusted the conduct of his navy to explain the na-
 “ ture and rules of our service to this court, in case
 “ I see any danger of their forming a wrong judgment
 “ of it, from inexperience in a matter so much out of
 “ their way.

“ The little gentleman yonder has spent so much
 “ breath, and shewn such great reading on the sub-
 “ ject, that I imagine it is proper for me to make him
 “ some answer, which I shall do, in as few words as
 “ possible, being not half so *long winded* as he. But
 “ first I must beg leave to tell him a story, to conform
 “ to rule.

“ I have read in a book, (for I perceive that com-
 “ mon sense signifies nothing here, if not supported
 “ by a quotation, it matters not whether to the pur-
 “ pose, or not!) that a certain philosopher having
 “ declaimed one day for a considerable length of
 “ time before *Alexander the Great*, at the head of his
 “ army, on the duties of a general, the Emperor
 “ turned about to *Parmenio*, one of his generals who
 “ stood near him, and asked him, what he thought
 “ of his speech?—*Sire*, (answered *Parmenio*) my
 “ opinion is, that *I never heard a fool talk so learn-*
 “ *edly*—

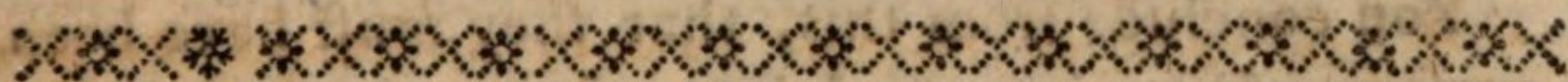
“ I make no applications. All that I say on this
 “ occasion is, that I am sure that gentleman has ne-
 “ ver been at sea; and consequently knows nothing
 “ of the service, on which he has been haranguing
 “ with such vehemence and elocution. He has expa-
 “ tiated most pathetically on the injustice of inflicting

“ corporal punishment, without a legal trial, and
“ condemnation; and flourished on the danger of
“ such an invasion of liberty. These to be sure, are
“ fine words; but I much doubt whether they are
“ properly applied on this occasion. The most per-
“ fect form of government is allowed to be *absolute de-*
“ *spotism*, as best calculated to work its effects with-
“ out delay. In all the communities in this world, I
“ doubt if there is one, where immediate obedience
“ to the command of the governor is so indispensibly
“ necessary to the safety of the whole, or where indi-
“ viduals are so insensible to every other motive to
“ obedience but fear, as in a man of war.

“ I have myself the honour to command a ship, in
“ which I have five hundred men under me, the
“ greatest part of whom, (I am sorry to say it) are
“ the *out-casts*, of human nature, as from some un-
“ happy circumstances is, and perhaps must always
“ be the universal case in our service. Now as in-
“ stances daily occur, in which a moment's delay or
“ hesitation to execute my orders, though attended
“ with the greatest difficulty, or most imminent dan-
“ ger, must evidently hazard the loss of the ship, and
“ every life in her; I desire that gentleman to inform
“ me how I am to act, should one of the men, whom
“ I order, suppose, to cut away a yard that's broke
“ in the flings, refuse to go aloft, and tell me I have
“ no right to punish him, till he is regularly tried
“ and found guilty! Shall I admit of such an answer,
“ to be an example to the rest? Or shall I punish him
“ with such severity on the spot, by my own mere au-
“ thority, as to terrify any other from imitating him?
“ The answer to this plain question will determine the
“ affair under consideration. If it is said that in the
“ present case the ship's being in the harbour makes
“ a difference, let us suppose her on fire there, and
“ that difference will vanish. In a word, if the ab-

“ solute authority indispensably necessary for carrying
 “ on our service in some instances is attempted to be
 “ abridged in any, it will of course be at length dis-
 “ puted in all, and the service ruined. All that can
 “ be done is to be cautious not to trust it in impro-
 “ per hands.”

This method of reasoning changed the face of the affair. The counsellor hung down his head, and slunk out of the court. The fears which had been entertained for public liberty vanished; and the jury simply *found the fact*, but left the *point* of law to be determined by the judges; so that after all this expence and trouble, matters remained in the same state of uncertainty as before, to the great joy of the lawyers.



CHAP. IX.

CHRYSALE's master joins a remarkable set of company. Their characters. CHRYSAL changes his service. Account of the enterprize on which his late master's companions were going; with the convincing arguments they used to procure obedience to their commands.

(THE purser having on his arrival in LONDON, parted with CHRYSAL regularly, in the execution of the commission entrusted to him by his captain; CHRYSAL, NOW IN THE SHAPE OF A GUINEA, after several changes of service, and a variety of curious adventures, has fallen into the hands of a PHYSICIAN and AUTHOR; who, having shewn him many of the mysteries of the latter profession, proceeds to introduce him into new scenes.—Vol. I. p. 133.

Happy in the contemplation of his own abilities, and the pleasing prospect they opened to him, my master proceeded to figure as usual in his variegated sphere.

Accordingly he descended from his *aerial citadel*, and going out to *visit his patients*, repaired directly to a tavern, to join a set of *critics*, and *choice spirits*, *souls of sentiment and fire*, who were going that evening upon an expedition that was to immortalize their names.

This was no less than to assume the modest power of making laws that should affect the property of a number of their fellow subjects; the execution of which they were resolved to enforce by the mild, and equitable means, which the respectable legislature of the mob always use to enforce obedience to their decrees.

Those, who were honoured by being taken thus under their immediate command, were *the actors of plays*, and *interludes*, of which, as the works of *genius*, and calculated for the entertainment of *the idle*, they claimed the sole, and absolute rule.

You conclude from this, that they must have been persons of learning, and large fortune, whose affluence gave them leisure to attend to subjects, which their education qualified them to judge of; but the contrary was the fact. They were either *blanks in the creation*, whom a superficial smattering of letters had filled with such an opinion of themselves, as to make them look with contempt upon every exertion of industry, as beneath their dignity, though at the same time they were barely able to subsist without it, by all the little shifts of *œconomy*; or tradesmen, almost absolutely illiterate, who from a preposterous ambition of hiding an ignorance, that was not any reproach to their station, set up for the arbiters of taste, on the strength of a set of phrases picked up at random, and of which they knew not even the meaning; and neglected the business by which they were to earn their bread, in order to make a shew of knowledge, that could be of no use to them.

When this illustrious set had sufficiently conned their several parts, in the great enterprize which they

were going to undertake, and raised their resolutions to a proper pitch by wine, they prepared to adjourn to the scene of action, the theatre; and calling for a *bill*, I was *changed* by my master to pay his *club*, and directly borrowed from the landlord by one of the leaders of the party, who *changed* me again at the door of the theatre, to pay for his admission.

These changes of my service however did not prevent my seeing the process of this extraordinary affair. On the contrary; as I now belonged to the whole theatrical community in general, I had an opportunity of getting a full insight into the nature, and mysteries of every part of that profession.

I see you desire to know my sentiments on a subject, that has been canvassed by the ingenious of all ages. Such a curiosity is natural, and shall be gratified at a proper time; but at present I must not interrupt the account of this transaction.

From the manner in which those self-made legislators had talked, when together, of every circumstance in the management of a theatre, and profession of an actor, you would have concluded that they were going to over-turn the whole present system of the stage, and institute another on principles directly opposite, according to their own ideas of perfection.

But that was not the case. Among all the errors and abuses, against which they declaimed with such vehemence, they thought proper to attack only one, which they thought most interesting to themselves in particular. This was the right, which reason, and law gave the performers to fix the price of their own labours.

In the infancy of the stage in London, before it had been brought by much labour and expence, to such a degree of perfection as to attract the attention of the public, it had been the custom after a certain part of

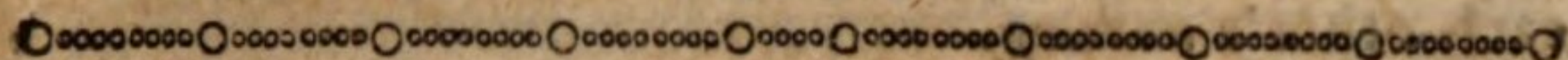
the representation was over, to admit persons for less than was paid at the beginning.

The obvious reason of this was to allure company of any kind thither, and take the most they could get, rather than keep the house empty. But when the passion for seeing plays arose to its present height, this expedient appeared to be no longer necessary, and therefore was diffused; a change which those who conducted the entertainments of the theatre justified by alledging the enhanced salaries of the actors, and the improvements made in the machinery, and decorations of the stage since the time when that custom was introduced, which they said required reimbursement, by a method, that could not justly be taken offence at, *as as none were obliged to go, who did not approve of the terms.*

Such a measure was most alarming to these men of taste, some of whom denied themselves the pleasure of going to the beginning of the performance, *because they were not able to pay the full price*; as the others, *could not get from behind their compters before it was half ended*; and for these good reasons both thought it the highest grievance to have a custom abolished, that had been so convenient to them.

Accordingly, as soon as the performance began, they all arose, and without any respect to the rest of the audience, interrupted the players in the most outrageous manner, nor would desist, till the managers should promise to redress the grievance which affected them so severely, and take half prices as before.

This was too flagrant a violation of justice to be submitted to, so suddenly. The managers therefore refused; upon which *these redressers of grievances* gave a loose to their resentment, at such an instance of disobedience to their authority; and tore the house to pieces, doing more damage to the proprietors, than their own entire worldly substance could repair.



C H A P. X.

The ruinous appearance of the scene of action supplies matter for mirth to those whose trade it is to laugh at every thing. The point carried against law and reason. Enquiry into the cause of this. The rise of the profession of an actor.

WHEN these men of genius and public spirit had thus gallantly accomplished their enterprize they marched off in triumph, denouncing a repetition of their resentment, should their orders not be obeyed.

The appearance of the house, after this ravage; and the looks of the actors when they ventured to creep out of their holes, seemed to realize the mimic scenes usually exhibited there. All was havoc, desolation, amazement, and affright. Crowns, sceptres, candlesticks, and broken benches were jumbled together: Sovereigns, and sweepers, lords, link-boys, dutchesses, and cinder-winses joined in one common lamentation of their fate.

This, however, lasted not long. Their hearts were not formed of stuff, for grief to make a deep impression on: Nor were they so unaccustomed to the rubs of life as to be dejected at any mischance. Their concern therefore wore off with their fright; and one of them, resuming his character of turning every thing to ridicule, marched with solemn pace and rueful countenance up to the motely ruins now collected into a heap, and with some droll variations, apt to the occasion, *spouted* over them a tragic speech, in all the emphasis and trick of woe. The humour instantly ran through them all. Mirth grinned on every

face; and they vied in cracking vaillainous jests on each other's *undoing*.

But the managers had suffered too severely in their property to be in so merry a mood. They consulted among themselves, and *with the sages of the law*, what was proper for them to do, to obtain redress for such injustice, and prevent the menaced repetition of it. But all was to no purpose. Law gave way to licentiousness; and they were obliged to submit to the most intolerable of all tyrannies, *that of the mob*.

You are surprized that such things should be, in a country governed by equal, and established laws. In speculation it must seem strange; but the least acquaintance with life would reconcile you to inconsistencies still grosser. There is something however in the circumstances of this case, which deserves attention, and makes it not improper to trace to their origin the prejudices from which such injustice could proceed.

When the system of Divine worship, which is now professed in these parts of the world, was first proposed to mankind, the human mind was a slave to superstitions, which were a disgrace to that portion of reason given for its direction.

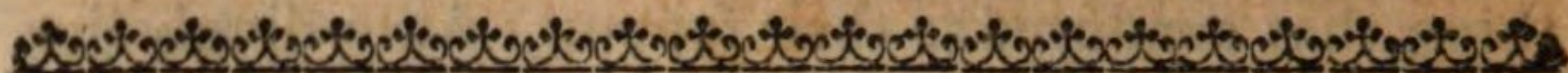
By a perversion, of which man alone is capable, the celebration of those superstitions, though professedly designed in honour of the Deity, was attended with *games*, and *scenical interludes*, in which the grossest immoralities received the sanction of religion, and were practised openly as pleasing to him. This was done to attach the passions of the multitude: and satisfy their curiosity with sensible representations, in order to prevent their making rational enquiries into the grounds of those superstitions, the principles of which were subservient to the policy of the ruling powers.

A religion instituted on purpose to reclaim man from immoralities and superstitions, and restore him

to the dignity of his nature, necessarily struck at every thing that conduced to their support: Accordingly the persons appointed to propogate it, exerted all their endeavours against those games and interludes, both as a part of the superstitious worship which they wanted to abolish, and as in themselves subversive of moral virtue, by the vices which they exhibited to imitation, heightened and made still more alluring by every incentive art and pomp of expence.

For this purpose, reason, as well as Religion, supplied ready and powerful arguments; but not content to wait for the slow effect of these, they strove to prejudice those whom they could not persuade; and to obviate the imitation of their example, raised an abhorrence to the persons of all concerned in such representations, casting them off from the rites of Religion, and declaring them unworthy both of the protection of the laws, and the common privileges of society: A method, that in one respect defeated its own design; as it could never reclaim the offenders, however it might deter others from following their example.

Nor did they stop here. By an error too common in the heat of argumentation, they concluded *from the abuse, against the use* of the stage, and branded with the mark of reprobation all future actors for the faults of the present.



C H A P. XI.

Continued. The common consequences of excess of zeal. The professed intent of the theatrical representations defeated by this absurd prejudice against actors. The vices against which this prejudice is levelled, in reality the effects of it; with the means of remedying this, and other abuses.

HOWEVER the occasion might there seem to justify this excess of zeal, when the cause ceased, the effect should in reason have ceased also; and these general censures have been repealed. The superstitions which were the foundation of the first charge against the stage have been long abolished; nor are the absurdities and immoralities which gave offence to reason and virtue any longer practised there. On the contrary, the professed intent of theatrical representations at present is to insinuate instruction under the pleasing appearance of entertainment, to encourage virtue by example, and inculcate the practice of it, by shewing the evils inseparably attendant on vice to regulate the passions by displaying the danger of indulging them too far, and to put folly out of countenance by holding it up to ridicule.

Now as experience has proved the stage capable of answering these great ends, what can be more injudicious than to attempt to bring it into disrepute. What more unjust than to consign to infamy those who exert the finest powers of the human mind and body, to accomplish this end in the most pleasing manner? Yet such is the absurdity of man, that while persons of the most exalted rank, and sacred character not only frequent the theatre, but also compose works to be represented on it, and evidently

value themselves more on possessing the abilities requisite to compose them, than on all their other distinctions in life, those from whose action such compositions receive their force and beauty, are held in disrepute, and subject to the severest disadvantages only for acting them. If it is no disgrace *to write a play*, why should it be any *to act it*?

It is true the consequences of this prejudice are not so severe here as in other countries, but still they are such as reason is ashamed of. If actors are not literally excluded from the protection of the laws, they want support to avail themselves of that protection, as in the case, which gave rise to these reflections! if they are not *actually* (*for literally they are*) excluded from the rites of Religion, they want encouragement to participate in them!

I see you are ready to object to the utility of the stage, the faults in many of the performances exhibited upon it; and to justify the disrepute affixed to the character of an actor, from the general immorality of their conduct in private life, as if it arose solely from their profession. But a moment's reflection would suggest answers to both these objections.

If there is any improper exhibition upon the stage, surely the blame should fall on those, who have a legal power to prevent such abuse of the institution of it! If the actors are immoral in their lives, should it not be considered that they are prejudged from their profession; and deprived of one of the strongest inducements to virtue, that is *reputation*, before they are proved to be guilty of vice.

The consequence of this is, that too few enter into the profession, till after they have lost their reputation, or are driven by mere necessity; by which means they reflect that disgrace upon it, which they are thought to suffer from it; and as they are sensible that they are precluded by this prejudice from all

possibility of recovering or preserving it by the most careful deportment, they become desperate, and proceed till they even lose the sense of unavailing shame.

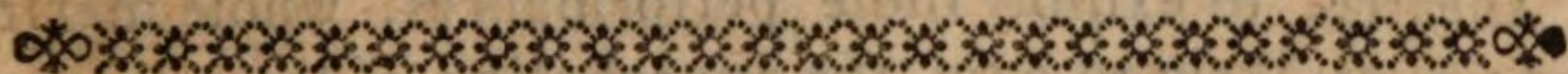
Whereas, if a different conduct was observed to them ! if the brand of reprobation was taken off, and the profession established in that credit, which the abilities indispensibly necessary to eminence in it deserve ; Genius would be no longer damp'd by apprehension of reproach : More persons of good character would not scruple going on the stage, as they could preserve it there ; nor vice seem to receive encouragement from the public favour, *because from this circumstance unhappily too often entangled with merit* ; but the life of the actor reflect the sentiments of the poet, and enforce them to imitation by example.

Nor would it be difficult to work this important effect. All necessary would be to refuse admission on the stage to all, *notorious for vice of any kind* ; to banish from it *such as should become so after, however eminent in their merits* ; and to support the profession, by the civil power, against the tyranny of the mob, so that the lives and properties of all concerned in it should be secure from suffering such licentious outrage, and injustice, as no other subjects are exposed to ; and as are equally a reproach and insult to the good government and common sense.

Nor need it be apprehended that this would make them insolent, or slacken their endeavours to please. Their very being depend on public favour, the bare withholding of which is punishment sufficiently severe ; as ambition to acquire it will make them exert their utmost abilities, and always observe proper humility to the arbiters of their fate. They know that if they are neglected, they cannot live : On the contrary, it would enable them to rise to greater merit in their art, as they would no longer be under the

wretched necessity of prostituting their own judgment to please the gross taste of their tyrants.

Many other arguments might be alleged against this grievous, and shameful abuse, but what I have said is sufficient to convince candid reason; and with prejudice it is in vain to argue.



C H A P. XII.

The system of policy by which CHRYSAL's master governed his state. Account of his methods of parrying poets. The reason why so few new plays are acted. Enquiry into the present state of genius. The general motives for writing plays preclude them from success. Managers and poets equally in fault in their dealings with each other.

THE day after this great affair was *thus equitably* settled, on the *treasurer's* making up his week's account, I came into the possession of the *manager*, who having some occasion for money put *me* into his pocket.

The measures of my new master's government in his little empire were the strongest burlesque on the policy of the world, the greatest sovereign in which had not more intrigues *of state* to manage, than were continually carrying on about him, from the ambition, envy, and jealousy of the several candidates for his *royal* favour.

But all this bustle did not embarrass him in the least. He had the address to *play off* one party against another; and *by never engaging himself particular to any, was able to manage all.* A method, by the bye, that might suggest an hint not unuseful to politicians in an higher sphere.

But the part of his conduct that was most curious, and gave me the greatest pleasure, was his manner of *parrying* the attacks of the *authors* who were continually bringing him their works for representation on the stage, of which I had an opportunity of seeing many striking instances.

As it is evidently the interest of the manager of a theatre, to exhibit those performances, whose merit is most likely to gain the approbation of the public; and as no man, who is capable of writing a piece proper for exhibition, can be supposed to want judgment to know whether it has that merit, you may naturally think that there could not be much difficulty in the intercourse between them; but human actions are not always to be judged of from the the strongest appearances of reason.

The representation of a new piece necessarily puts the manager to some expence, and much trouble. If you add to this the natural anxiety about success, *for merit is often rejected by caprice, or personal prejudice*, you would not wonder that he should be cautious what he brings upon the stage; and prefer acting old ones, unattended with these inconveniences, while the public will bear the repetition, and does not peremptorily demand new.

This is the real reason, why so few new pieces are performed; and not any decline of poetical genius to produce them; it being certain that there are as many good plays written now, as at any former point of time. But the matter is this. All the good ones of those times lie together before you, and raise your opinion to the happy days which produced them: But if you consider the long intervals between, and the innumerable bad ones which appeared along with them, but are now lost in the wreck of time, you will find that you have not so great reason to complain of the present decline of genius, as you may have imagined.

I do not by this mean, that every one who pretends to write is possessed of that genius; or that all the pieces offered to the stage are proper for representation. On the contrary, many who want every qualification indispensable to success in such attempts, make them every day in defiance of reason; and strive to obtrude upon the public, works which are a reproach to common sense.

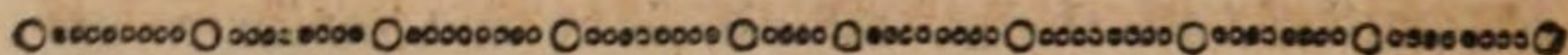
The motives of this are obvious. Whenever a man is at a loss how to spend his time; or wants to raise a little money, down he sits without more ado, and writes a play. The consequence of this is, that the very reasons which made him turn poet, necessarily preclude him from success. *Idleness* prevents that care, that *limæ labor*, which alone can make a performance proper for public representation; and *distress* depresses the imagination; and hinders its rising to that *happy boldness*, which is the essence of poetry.

It appears from hence, that if the managers of theatres from interested motives are often to blame for rejecting *good* pieces; poets (or those who would be thought such) are much oftner culpable for offering them *bad* ones. The difference of opinion unavoidable on this account occasions the difficulty in their intercourse. But in this the contest is not equal. The word of the manager is decisive; while the poet has nothing left, but to vent his resentment in unavailing (and often unjust) complaints, and abuse, in which those who have least right are always loudest; for enamoured with the beauty of their own offspring, like the Ape in the fable, they throw dirt at all who presume to find fault with it.

But severe as it must be to suffer this, it is not the greatest difficulty the manager has to encounter with them. Not satisfied with the civil refusal of affected delays and excuses, they must have a direct answer,

which they controvert with all their power, and oblige him to support by such arguments as must give him pain, if he has either politeness or good-nature; though after all, instead of convincing them, he only gets their's and their friends ill-will, and arms all their tongues against him.

It is not to be doubted but the *evasions* which managers use to *shift off* good pieces are as grossly offensive to moral propriety, truth and candour, as the arguments of authors in defence of *bad* ones can possibly be to reason; but as I did not happen to be witness to any instances of them, I shall confine my account to the latter.



C H A P. XIII.

CHRYSALE's master sits in judgment on some pieces offered to him. A poet of fashion enters. The arguments by which he supports his work against the objections of CHRYSALE's master, who makes some curious dramatical strictures. The poet driven from his last retreat, the interest of his great friends, by the common cant of the house's being FULL for the season, departs in a rage, denouncing their resentment, which CHRYSALE's master shews his reason not to fear the effects of.

THE important morning after I came into the possession of the manager was big with the fate of many a poetical performance, the authors of which were appointed to come there for his decisive answer.

Accordingly, as soon as he had breakfasted, he repaired to his tribunal, where he had been waited for, some time by one of those aspiring genius's, who sacrifice the solid happiness of independance, to the vain ambition of *being well with the great*: submitting to

their capricious humours for the honour of a nod in public places, or an invitation to their tables; to enhance their welcome at which, and consume time they know not how to make better use of, they fall upon this wise expedient of turning poets.

When they had gone through all the formalities of polite address, and taken their seat with proper ceremony, the poet opened the business. “Well, Sir,” (said he with a smile of self-complacence) “You have perused that trifle! what is your opinion? Heh! don’t you think it will do?”

“Sir,” (answered my master, with the smooth simper of a courtier) “you do it injustice by calling it a trifle! the piece has a great deal of merit; and reads very prettily in many places; but I fear it is not quite so proper for the stage!”—

“How, Sir! not proper for the stage! pray, Sir, where does the impropriety lie? Several persons of the first rank have read it, and found no such thing. *His Grace* said it abounded with the *vis comica*, *Lord Tastely* was charmed with the *Attic salt*; and *Sir Courtley* admired the elegance of the diction. Pray, Sir, where then can the impropriety lie? They are allowed to be judges.”—

—“Pardon, me, Sir, I do not presume to call their judgment in question, in the least. But—a—”

—And why then should you hesitate to receive it? they will support it, with all their interest.”—

“That, Sir, I do not doubt. But—still, Sir,—the town”——

“——The town, Sir! and pray what of the town? Is the judgment of the town to be put into competition with theirs?”—

“No, Sir! by no means! but still the town is a very formidable, and arbitrary judge; and will not admit its authority to be disputed, in such matters as this.”——

“— And pray, good Sir, what objections can the
“ judicious town, or you, its learned advocate,
“ make?”—

—“ Sir, you impose a very disagreeable task upon
“ me! I had much rather be excused.”—

“ I do not in the least doubt that, Sir; but my
“ friends insist upon a direct answer. Either receive
“ the play, or say why you will not.”—

—“ Sir, I should be very sorry to give offence to
“ any gentleman; but since you insist upon my opi-
“ nion, Do not you think, Sir, the plot is too—too
“ —too domestic? Are not the intrigues and tricks
“ of servants too low a subject for polite entertain-
“ ment?”—

—“ How, Sir! have you any objection to ser-
“ vants? Do not they make a principal part in all
“ our modern comedies? Are the *Jeremy's*, and *Scrubs*,
“ and *Phillis's* and a thousand others to be rejected
“ because they are servants?”—

—“ No, Sir! but consider they are not the princi-
“ pal characters; nor does the plot turn upon them.
“ They come in as it were, by accident; and indeed,
“ except in the instances you have mentioned, and
“ perhaps a very few more, they had much better be
“ left out. It shews a grossness of taste to stoop to
“ them for entertainment.”—

—“ And do not I introduce the masters, and mis-
“ tresses too, at well as the servants? Are there not
“ country-squires, and town fops, and fine ladies?”—

“ Yes, Sir, you do introduce them, but in a subor-
“ dinate light; and merely to be the dupes of their
“ servants, without any business, or importance of
“ their own.”—

—“ And pray, Sir, in what other light, do most
“ masters appear? Hah! hah! hah!—Well then it
“ seems all your objections are to the fable. You

“ have nothing to say against the sentiments, and
 “ diction.”——

——The Sentiments, Sir, may be very proper; and the diction suited to them; but you must be sensible that the former objection affects them all equally. the characters are too low; and the sentiments and diction consequently too coarse.——

“ Sir,—Sir,—Sir,—I shall not enter into any farther arguments with you. *His Grace* bids me tell you he insists upon your receiving it; or giving him such reasons as he shall think satisfactory, which must be very different from those insignificant cavils.”——

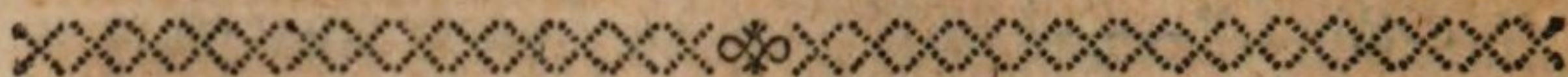
——“ *His Grace* need not exert his authority to influence my obedience. The least hint of his pleasure were sufficient; but unluckily I am engaged for the whole season! quite *full*.”——

“ —*Full*! why did you not tell me so at first?”——

——“ Because you insisted in having my opinion.”——

——“ Very well, Sir! I shall let his Grace and all my friends know how you behaved. Let me have the play! impertinent, insolent, ignorant puppy!” muttered he, as he went out.

“ So (said my master, as soon as he was gone) I have now made him my enemy for ever. As for his *noble friends* they are above troubling themselves about any thing of the kind, and give him leave to mention their names, only to get rid of his importunity.”



C H A P. XIV.

Continuation, CHRYSALE's master rejects the work of a poet for his ignorance of the laws of the drama. More dramatical strictures. The poet modestly insists that his play is refused only because it wants the interest of the great; and goes off in an huff. Another poet repulsed for his attachment to the laws of the drama. Arguments against these laws. The poet refuses to conform to the present taste; and makes an appeal. One more poet refused only for wanting every poetical talent. Remarks on something that affects more than care to own it. CHRYSALE changes his service, on an occasion not common.

THE last poet was scarce down stairs, when a footman *announced* the entrance of another.

My master did not think it necessary to observe so much ceremony with him, as he had done with the former, but told him directly that he could not receive his piece.

Such a sentence struck the poet *all of an heap*. He was unable to speak for some moments; but recovering himself at length, "Not receive it, Sir!" (said he) "you surprize me. Pray, Sir, why so?"——

"I am very loth to find fault, Sir!" (answered my master) "But you seem to be utterly unacquainted with all *the laws of the drama*."

—"The laws of the drama! they are but art; I write from nature. Those laws have been long laid aside. *Shakespear* wrote without laws."——

—"So much the worse. But he is a dangerous example to imitate. The local, temporary laws of the antient drama are laid aside, it is true; but

“not the immutable, general laws of propriety, and
“reason. Your fable is inconnected, improbable,
“and unaffecting.”——

——“How, Sir! unaffecting! Can the fall of a
“mighty empire be said to be unaffecting?”——

——“No, Sir! But the description of it most cer-
“tainly may, if not drawn with judgment, and force.
“And then your characters are ill supported; and
“your sentiments and language lost in the clouds.”

——“What, Sir! can the sentiments of Kings
“and Princes be too sublime?”

——“There is a wide difference between being
“sublime, and swollen out of nature.”——

——“But what objection can you make to the lan-
“guage, Is it not raised with *epithets*, and *metaphors*,
“and all the figures of poetry?”——

——“Good Sir! poetical figures in poor language
“look like embroidery on a blanket. They only
“make its poverty ridiculous. Beside your *stalking*
“*in their stilts*, betrays you into many a stumble in
“the dirt. Your figures frequently fly in the face of
“common sense, and break through every rule of
“grammar.”——

——“Well, Sir! I shall consider of these particu-
“lars. The great objection I have heard made to mo-
“dern plays, is their want of business: But this can
“never be charged to mine. There is a *ghost*, and a
“battle; and a king dethron’d. Business enough
“and enough, I am sure.”——

——“Ghosts and battles, Sir, it is true, are some-
“times introduced with success; but then it must
“be by a master in the art, else they have a very
“contrary effect.”——

——“I apprehend that the aim of tragedy is to
“work upon the passions. In this I believe you
“cannot say I have fail’d. The distress is truly
“great.”——

——“ Distress when out of character loses the appearance of reality, and becomes ridiculous. A king in an alms house, and a queen begging from door to door, are images which sink into burlesque.”——

——“ It is very well, Sir! you may say what you please, but I am satisfied it is not want of merit in my play that makes you refuse it. You daily act much worse. If it had been recommended to you by some lord, you would have found none of these faults; but merit may starve without interest to support it now-a-days. This is fine encouragement to genius truly; and the public is like to be well entertained while such men have it in their power to refuse every thing that does not happen to please themselves.”——

Saying this he snatched up his play, leaving my master to please himself with the prospect of being *criticized upon in a news paper*, and pulled to pieces in a scurrilous pamphlet.

He had not time to indulge these reflections long, when another of his clients attended his levee.

As soon as he was seated, “ I have read over your work with great care;” (said my master), and am sorry to say, I think it improper for the stage.”——

——“ Pray, Sir, why so?” (answered the poet, with an air of importance) “ It is written strictly according to the rules of the drama; and enriched with the sublimest sentiments of the ancients.”——

“ Sir, I am sensible of its merit; as well as of the great learning of the author: But the taste of the times requires entertainment of a different kind.”

——“ Surely compliance with a vitiated taste will not justify the breach of rules, taken originally from nature, and established for so many ages.”——

——“ I neither dispute the original justice, nor the antiquity of them: But I apprehend that the lat-

“ter in a great measure destroys the present force
 “of the former. The customs of mankind, the part
 “of nature that comes within the province of the
 “drama, are so changed since the establishment of
 “those rules, that it would be most absurd to exact
 “obedience to them now. Beside, may it not be
 “said, without violation of the respect due to an-
 “tiquity, that experience in a great length of time
 “may have made many improvements in those rules.
 “The infancy of every art is weak.”—

—“But whatever change may have happened in
 “customs of the world, truth still remains the same,
 “and the genuine sentiments of nature cannot dis-
 “please.”—

—“Very true! but still they may not always be
 “received with equal pleasure, in the same garb.
 “Unimpassioned sentiment, however just and sub-
 “lime, works not the effects designed by the drama,
 “whose aim is to convey instruction and pleasure at
 “the same time, by an immediate address to the
 “passions.”—

—“Is it possible, that you can be an advocate for
 “the irregular monsters, which at present dishonour
 “the stage?”—

—“As for irregularity, I look upon it to be but an
 “imaginary defect. Though even if it were other-
 “wise, I am the servant of the public, and obliged
 “to find entertainment for their taste, be it what it
 “will. If you would but conform.”—

—“No, Sir! that I never will, against reason and
 “the antients. I see you are prejudiced, and there-
 “fore shall not argue with you any longer. But I
 “shall not acquiesce in silence. I will publish the
 “performance, without being discouraged by your
 “refusal, and appeal to the judgment of the learn-
 “ed.”—

He then marched off with a stately pace, and my

master, looking after him, “There again” (said he, shrugging his shoulders) I shall now have the ghosts of *Sophocles*, and *Aristotle* and all the doughty antients raised to haunt me.”—

As he said this, a person entered whose whole appearance spoke distress. He approached my master bowing lowly, and trembling with anxiety as he spoke: “I have made bold to wait upon you, Sir!” (said he) “but if you are not at leisure, will call another time.”—

“Pray, Sir, sit down;” (replied my master, with a smile of encouragement) “I have looked over your work, and am concerned that it is not in my power to receive it; as I should be sincerely glad to serve you. But in this, it is not possible. I must be plain with you.—You seem to want every poetical talent.”—

“I thought, Sir,” (returned the poet, scarce able to collect spirit enough to speak to him) “that the business of tragedy was to work upon the passions! I depended entirely on the distress.”—

—“Very true, Sir! But there are other passions, besides pity to be applied to; nor is poverty a proper distress to work upon them. Severe as it is to be felt, it affects but little in representation. The upper ranks of life know not what it is; and those who do are desirous to keep the thought at a distance; and conceal a knowledge they are ashamed of. The mind must be properly prepared to feel for another. The description of a famine would affect but little after a feast.”

This came too home to the unhappy poet. He burst into tears; and was departing without being able to make any reply. My master felt his distress; though he could not receive his play, as he knew that an audience would pay no regard to his circumstances, nor give up an evening’s entertainment to relieve an

author's indigence; and waiting on him to the door, slipped a couple of guineas into his hand; when it fell to my lot to change my service.

I had never experienced my own influence on the human heart so strongly, as on this occasion. The poet kissed the hand of his benefactor in a rapture too big for utterance: and forgetting for a moment all his distresses, went to a coffee-house and *changed* me to pay for his breakfast; “where I was immediately *borrowed* at the bar, by an officer, who was going to dine with his general, and wanted money to give his servants. *Vol. I.—Page 133.*



C H A P. XV.

CHRYSALE's master engages in a genteel amour. A delicate way of refining pleasure. His mistress persuades him that she has poisoned him, and herself. His situation at hearing this. Striking proofs of medical skill with the advantage of a regular course of practice. An exemplary instance of charity and forgiveness diverts the doctor's attention to the murderers.

(CHRYSALE after having seen several striking scenes, in the course of an extensive circulation, is at length carried to an horse-race, where he is initiated in some of the mysteries of the turf.)

“It was on a sporting bet, on one of the bye matches, that I was *lost* that evening to the nobleman, as I said, in whose possession I happened to remain till the end of the meeting.” *Vol. II.—Page 102.*

As it was late in the evening when my master arrived in *London*, he resolved to indulge himself for that

night in the embraces of a tender-hearted female, whom he *picked up* in the street, (for he was no way nice in his amours,) as he walked from the inn, where he alighted, to his own house, in order to stretch his legs.

Nothing more than common occurrences passed upon this occasion. When his lordship had made his mistress *nobly* drunk, *by the way of refining his pleasure*, the delicate pair went lovingly to bed together, where awaking about midnight, he was surpris'd to find her cold, and lifeless in his arms. After some fruitless efforts to move her, he started out of bed in a fright, and called up all his servants; who perceiving that she was not actually dead, took such pains to recover her, that she at length opened her eyes, and staring wildly around her for some moments. “Where am I? (said she) “Are these the regions of the damn’d? For thither “only can such self-murdering wretches, as I am, “go.”—Then seeing his lordship, whose curiosity had brought him to the bed-side, “and are you dead “too?” (continued she, wringing her hands and weeping most passionately) “O why did I not confine my rage to myself? Why did I add your murder to my own, to plunge my soul still deeper in “perdition?”——

This surpris'd all present. The servants who were indifferent whether it were true or false, imagined she only raved, and doubled their efforts to bring her to herself, soothing her with expressions of tenderness, and telling her she was not dead, but would soon be very well: But my master was too nearly concerned to think so coolly of the matter.

“What is that you say?” (said he trembling in horror) “What is it you say about murder? There is no “one murdered here.”

“How!” (answered she, fixing her eyes eagerly up-

on him) “Is it possible, that I am still alive? And
 “that you also live? It cannot be! the poison which
 “I swallowed this night, and in which you shared too
 “largely, cannot have missed of its effect. But soft:
 “its operation now begins! that pang!—oh!—that
 “pang bespeaks the near approach of death! —O
 “mercy!—O cry for mercy on your sins!”—

“What poison?” (interrupted he, terrified almost
 to distraction) “What poison have I shared in?
 “Speak! tell me directly, or”—

“Spare your threats, my lord,” (said she with a
 composure in her looks and manner that persuaded e-
 very one present she was in her senses) “spare your
 “threats to a wretch, whom death will soon deliver
 “from your power; and forgive a crime, that pro-
 “ceeded from despair. Wearied of the miseries of
 “this life, I this night resolved to put an end to it,
 “and for that purpose, though on another pretence,
 “procured a doze of poison from a Chymist’s apren-
 “tice, who on giving it to me, said it was sufficient
 “to kill twenty of the strongest men alive: And this
 “poison did I take an opportunity to put into the
 “last bottle of wine, when you went out of the room
 “determined to sacrifice one man to my revenge for
 “the injuries I had received from the sex: Though
 “after I had done it, my heart relented; but you
 “insisted on my drinking, and fear of your resent-
 “ment prevented me from making a discovery, that
 “would have saved us both from this unhappy”—At
 these words she fell into convulsions so strong that e-
 very one, who saw her, thought she was really in the
 agonies of death.

The situation of my master, at this sight, may be
 easily conceived. He instantly felt every pain, that
 poison could produce: and falling on the floor, roar-
 ed aloud in anguish of mind and body, lamenting his

untimely fate, and confessing all the sins of his life, to the servants who stood around him.

As soon as they had raised him up and carried him into another room, a dawn of hope arose at his finding he did not immediately die. “What! exclaimed he) is every one combined against me? Am I to perish for want of assistance? Will no-body even call me a physician? Perhaps I might yet be saved, were proper means applied! will no-body call me a physician?”——

On his saying this, every one was running to obey him, the sight of which threw him into new distress. “O wretch that I am!” (exclaimed he) “and so I am to be left alone! to perish for want even of a drop of water! is it not enough for some of you to go; and not all to desert me in this base, this barbarous manner?”——This seemed to restore them to their senses; and accordingly while some went to call the doctors, the rest staid to take care of him.

Where the carrion is, the crows will soon be gathered together. He was immediately surrounded by half the meagre faces of the faculty, (for as he had not named any one in particular, his servants to shew their care had summoned all they knew of) who taking the account he gave them of his being poisoned for truth, proceeded instantly to practise upon him every method they had ever heard of being used in such a case. In hope that some one of them might take effect. He was cup’d, bled, and blistered; vomited, clystered, and purged in the space of two hours; the doctors sagaciously discovering new symptoms of the poison, every new remedy they tried.

When they found that beyond [their expectations he had strength enough to out-live all this, they put him into bed, and covering him up warm, to take a

sweat, comforted him with hopes of his recovery, in consequence of their skill and care.

While they waited patiently for this important crisis, some of them happened to think of the poor murderers, who had been neglected all this time, and now lay in a swoon, the convulsions having gone off, as her strength fail'd.

On hearing her name mentioned, his lordship to shew his Christian charity, and prove the sincerity of the repentance and amendment, which he vowed in case his life should be mercifully spared, desired that they would do something for the unhappy creature, if she was still alive. This was sufficient to attach their compassion and care. They answered with one voice, that it was a pity to let her perish, without even attempting to save her, and praising his lordships goodness, prepared to try some experiments upon her also, if only to do something for their fee.



CHAP. XVI.

The recovery of the murderers opens a new scene. She clears up the mystery, less to the satisfaction of the doctors than of their noble patient, who rewards her liberally for her good news; and sends them off without their errand. Reflections on some genteel matters. CHRYSAL changes his service.

THEIR practice upon this new subject however was cut short by a success, more speedy than they desired; their first operation of bleeding bringing her directly to herself.

As soon as she perceived what had been done, and recovered strength to speak, “Good God,” (said she) “what is the meaning of this? Who can have been so inhuman as to bleed me, when it is known to be ruin, in my disorder?”

“In your disorder!” (said one of the doctors with a contemptuous frown) “what disorder? Have you not poisoned yourself? and what is still worse, his lordship also; who now lies in the same desperate condition with you, and has from his unmerited goodness directed us to take this care of you; though if we can save you from this death, it must be to suffer one more ignominious.”

“I poison myself!” (interrupted she, raising herself up in the bed) “I poison his lordship! What can you mean by this? I understand you not; and am innocent, even in thought, of any such crimes. Explain yourself therefore; and do not sport with the misery of a wretched creature, who has more

“ real distresses than she is able to bear, without the
 “ addition of imaginary guilt.”

This amazed them all. They stood looking at each other for some moments, wrapt in reflections, not the most pleasing, on the consequences which might attend their precipitation in treating his lordship in the manner they had done, in case what she said should prove true. At length on her repeating her intreaties, one of them condescended to inform her of every thing that had passed, dwelling particularly on the desperate condition his lordship had been in, and the various methods they had used to relieve him.

Weak and dispirited as you must suppose her to have been, she was scarce able to refrain from laughter at this account. “ A desperate condition
 “ he must be in now indeed ;” (said she) “ whatever
 “ he was in before ! but if you will give me leave to
 “ slip on my gown and go to him, I’ll soon compleat
 “ his cure.”

This was a step so contrary to all rules of practice, that they could not permit it. On the contrary, one of them observing the impropriety of listening to the ravings of a person, whose head must certainly be distracted by the effects of the poison, they all took the hint, and were actually going to hold her down by force, in order to proceed in their experiments upon her, which you may think would not have been the more merciful, for what she had just said.

But she was delivered from this discipline, by the appearance of his lordship, who on one of his servants carrying him the pleasing news of what she said, had found strength enough to run to her, and throwing himself on the bed, “ O my dearest girl ?” (exclaimed he, clasping his arms around her neck) “ am I not
 “ then a dead man ? Tell me ? tell me the truth, di-
 “ rectly ! am I not a dead man ?”——

His haggard looks, and the bandages and flannels, in which he was wrapped all over, convinced her of the truth of what the doctors had told her he had suffered. Shocked at the thought, she held up her hands in a supplicating posture, and imploring his pardon for what she had been the involuntary cause of, informed him that she was subject to fits, which attacked her with double violence whenever she drank to any excess, as his lordship had compelled her to do that night, much he must have been sensible, against her inclination, had she dared to refuse him; and that when she was in those fits, which lasted till the effects of the liquor went off, she was apt to rave, and speak every extravagance and inconsistency that could come into a disordered head.

The manner in which she spoke left not the least room for doubt. All his fears were instantly removed, his joy at which obliterated the remembrance of every thing he had suffered in mind and body, and he not only forgave her, but also made her an handsome present in recompence for her happy news.

But his doctors met with a very different treatment. He reviled them in the severest terms, for their ignorance and presumption in putting him to such torture, and tearing his constitution by such violent means, before they were certain of his ailment; and without permitting them to allege in their vindication his assertions of what he felt, and intreaties not to leave any thing unattempted, that they thought might possibly relieve him, ordered them to be turned out of doors, without giving them a farthing for all their trouble.

I have seen that you were surprized at his lordship's indelicacy, and disregard to his health, in having an amour with a creature in so low a state of infamy and wretchedness, as to walk the street to offer herself to

casual prostitution ; as well as at her expressing herself in a manner so much above her appearance, and circumstances. But the least acquaintance with the world would easily account for both.

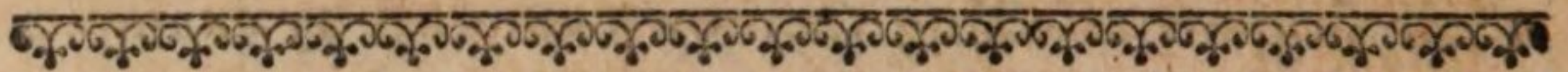
When once a woman falls from chastity, the characteristic virtue of her sex, the descent to this lowest degree of human misery is natural, and seldom, very seldom, fails to come of course. The kept mistress, who this day shines in brocade and jewels, and rattles about in her chariot, will in a few months spend the night in the streets for want of an habitation to hide her head, and without cloathes to shelter her from the inclemencies of the weather, when the novelty that first recommended her is worn off; *for no prosperity that is not established on virtue can last.* Theirs indeed is of all the most fleeting ; the vice which is their support affecting their own conduct by example, and making them lavish profusely, what they get from profusion.

Such had been the case of this female. She had been entitled by birth and education to better hopes ; but vice had blasted all, and left her only the reflection of what she might have been, to aggravate her present wretchedness.

As to him ! his health possibly was in a state not worthy of regard ! and for his delicacy ! the indiscriminate vague intercourse of the sexes effectually destroys that, as well as the sentimental attachment, which refines the desire of rational beings, and distinguishes it from the gross appetite of brute animals, so that in general nothing farther than the gratification of that appetite is now sought ; and as that can be effected by any one object, as well as another, whether it is found in a palace or a brothel makes no difference, with those who profess themselves men of pleasure. The sex is all they seek, without regard to

any qualifications ; and consequently, when their appetites are gratified, they desert the objects of them with the same indifference, as they took them.

But to return to my master. It was some time as you may imagine, before he recovered the effects of this affair ; but I remained not with him so long. The doctors, in revenge for the treatment they had met with, blazed it abroad, with the addition of every ridiculous circumstance they could invent. This brought all his acquaintances to have a laugh at him upon the occasion ; to one of whom he *lost* me that afternoon on a bet, at a race, between two of the *maggots*, which they found in the nuts they cracked after dinner.



CHAP. XVII.

CHRYSALE'S master goes to be admitted into an extraordinary society. Some reflections not suited to the taste of the times. Rise of this society. A description of a monastery with an account of its members, and of some of its rules.

THE next morning after I came into the possession of my new master, he set out upon a party of pleasure of a most extraordinary nature. This was to be admitted into a society, formed of a number of persons of the first distinction, in burlesque imitation of the religious societies, which are instituted in other countries.

I have already told you, that I shall not give any opinion in religious matters. But whether the origi-

nal institution of such societies was right or not, as the motive of them was the worship of the Deity, any attempt to turn them into ridicule most certainly must be wrong; the mind of man seldom being acute or attentive enough to distinguish between matters, which to appearance are so intimately connected as the mode of worship, and the object of it! but generally involving either in the disregard affecting the other. In the present instance indeed, the disregard was designedly levelled at both alike.

To give you a proper notion of the scene in which my master was going to act a capital part, it is necessary to trace the whole from its original.

A person of a flighty imagination, and who possessed a fortune that enabled him to pursue those flights, cloyed with common pleasures, and ambitious of distinguishing himself among his companions, and resolved to try if he could not strike out something new, that should at the same time please his own taste, and do honour to his genius.

The meer gratifications of sense, in their utmost extent, not answering his design, he had recourse to the assistance of imagination to enhance them. The great *butt*, against which men of pleasure play off all their wit is Religion. Their reasons, for a practice so gross, are obvious. As the voice of conscience will sometimes intrude upon them so as to pall their highest pleasures, in the very moment of enjoyment, their first endeavour is to silence it, which they find by experience cannot be done so effectually by any other method, as this of taking off the respect paid to Religion, from which conscience borrows the terrors, that make its admonitions so unwelcome. Beside, they think it shews their superiority over the rest of mankind to laugh at what they are afraid of; as it is also convenient for their character of wit, to exert it

on topicks, where it is safe from being rivalled, by men of real understanding.

These weighty considerations determined him to season his Scheme as high as he could with impiety, in order to make it be the better relished. Accordingly, after due deliberation on a matter of such moment, he at length hit upon a plan that pleased him.

In the middle of a large lake upon his estate there was an island, the natural beauties of whose situation had been heightened by every improvement of art. On this island he erected a building exactly on the model of the monasteries, which he had seen in other countries; and to make the resemblance compleat, there was not a vice, that he had ever heard imputed to the inhabitants of them, for practising which he did not make provision in his. The cellars were stored with the choicest wines; the larders with the delicacies of every climate; and the *cells* were fitted up, for all the purposes of lasciviousness, for which proper objects were also provided.

Thus far the ridicule, however criminal in itself, may seem to have been designed only against those societies of human institution: But it was beneath his genius and spirit to stop here. Nothing less would satisfy him, than to attack the very essentials of the Religion established by the laws of his country, and acknowledged by every serious person in it, to be divine.

For this pious purpose, when every thing was prepared for their reception, his next care was to find a fraternity proper for the place. But in this, his rank, and course of life made him not long at a loss. He selected from among his intimates a number equal to that of those, who had been at the first chosen to inculcate the Religion, which he designed to ridicule,

whose names they assumed, as he with equal modesty and piety did that of the divine author of it: And to supply any decrease in this number by death, or desertion from the terrors of reflection, he instituted an inferior order of as many more, chosen also with the greatest caution and regard to the latitude of their principles, their fortunes and mirthful accomplishments.

The probationary office of these latter was to attend upon their superiors in the celebration of their mysteries, which were all performed in the chapel of the monastery, where no other servants were ever permitted to enter, on the most common occasion, as the very *decorations* of it would in a great measure have betrayed their secrets, the ceiling being covered with emblems and devices too gross to require explanation to the meanest capacity; and the walls painted with the portraits of those whose names and characters they assumed, represented in attitudes, and actions, horrible to imagination.

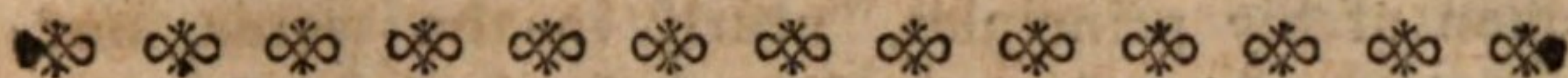
Nor was their care to keep their mysteries impenetrably secret confined to this exclusion of common servants. The diffidence of conscious guilt made them even distrust each other, till bound to secrecy by oaths, and imprecations, receiving their force, from the Religion thus abused by them: An absurdity common among men associated for the most flagitious purposes.

But strong as the power of superstition is over weak and wicked minds, (for nothing but the grossest superstition could make them think oaths in such circumstance binding!) their secrecy was secured by a still stronger motive, which was fear.

They were sensible that even suspicion of such vices would for ever exclude them from the society of all those, whom in despite of themselves, they could not

help holding in respect; and that so unrageous an insult upon the laws was liable to punishment from the secular power, though they might by their interest evade the direct effects of which, yet the imputation would make them so obnoxious to the people in general, that they could no longer hope to enjoy any of the lucrative employments of the state, if their resentment did not arise still higher, and make them take that punishment into their own hands! and these fears prevented the secrets from being divulged even by such as had resolution enough to desert the society; as they imagined the stain could never be so effectually expunged, as to secure them from those consequences.

The rites of this society, and the ceremonies observed upon admission into it, will be best explained by the account of what I saw my master perform on this occasion, when he was a candidate for the higher order, having already served his noviciate in the lower.



C H A P. XVIII.

CHRYSAI's master arrives at the monastery. The manner of his being admitted into the society. Character of his competitor. The method he took to revenge the society's injustice in preferring CHRYSAI's master to him. The mirth of the company disturbed by the entrance of THE DEVIL, just as he was invoked by CHRYSAI's master. The effect of such a visitor upon the company. The DEVIL fixes upon CHRYSAI's master in particular, and makes him squeak.

IT was about four o'clock in the afternoon when my master arrived at the verge of the lake, where he no sooner made the concerted signal, than a boat was sent to ferry him over.

On his landing in the island, he went to the monastery, where he found the society just sitting down to dinner, at which he took his place among them. When they had made a short meal, and drank their spirits up to a proper pitch, they retired to their respective cells, to prepare for the solemnity they were going to celebrate. My master then clad in a milk white robe of the finest linen, that flowed loosely round, repaired at the tolling of a bell, to the chapel, the scene of all their mysterious rites, and knocking gently thrice at the door, it was opened to him, to the sound of soft and solemn music.

On his entrance he made a most profound obeisance, and advancing slowly towards a table, that stood against the wall, in the upper end of the chapel, as

soon as he came to the rails, by which it was surrounded, he fell upon his knees, and making a profession of his principles, nearly in the words, but with the most gross perversion of the sense of the articles of faith of the religion established in the country, demanded admission within the rails, the peculiar station of the upper order, where the superior and eleven of the fraternity (the twelfth place was vacant, and now to be filled up) stood arrayed in the habits of those, whose names and characters they profaned by their assumption.

When he had finished, another candidate advanced in the like manner, and making his profession also preferred the same claim; as there was more who had a right to do, but discouraged by the superior merit of these two, they had declined their pretensions for this time.

The brotherhood having heard the competitors with attention, retired to the table, and kneeling around it, the superiour repeated a prayer, in the same strain and manner with the *profession* of the candidates, to the *Being whom they served* to direct their choice to him of the two most worthy of his service.

The superior then proceeded to take the suffrages of the rest, with the same mimic solemnity; when my master being found to have the majority, his election was exultingly attributed to immediate inspiration, and he was accordingly admitted within the rails, where he received the *name* and *character*, which he was to bear in the society, in a manner not proper to be described, every the most sacred rite and ceremony of Religion being profaned, all the prayers and hymns of praise appointed for the worship of the Deity burlesqued by a perversion to the horrid occasion.

In this manner the evening was wasted till supper-

time, when they sat down to a banquet in the chapel, in honour of the occasion, at which nothing that the most refined luxury, the most lascivious imagination could suggest to kindle loose desire, and provoke and gratify appetite was wanting, both the superiors, and the inferiors, (who were permitted to take their places at the lower end of the table, as soon as they had served in the banquet) vying with each other in in loose songs and dissertations of such gross lewdness, and daring impiety, as despair may be supposed to dictate to the damn'd, in both which, my master shone so unrival'd as to bear down the superior sprightliness, wit, and humour of all the rest; and compensate for the want of every companionable merit.

But while they were in the height of their festivity, an affair happened, that interrupted it for a time, and shewed their resolution, particularly that of my master, in a proper light.

The person, who had that day been his competitor for the honour of admission into the higher order of the society, possessed the qualifications, which he wanted, in the most eminent degree. He had such a flow of spirits, that it was impossible ever to be a moment dull in his company. His wit gave charms to every subject he spoke upon; and his humour displayed the foibles of mankind in such colours, as to put even folly out of countenance.

But the same vanity, which had first made him ambitious of entering into this society, only because it was composed of persons of a rank superior to his own in life, and still kept him in it, tho' upon acquaintance he despised themselves, sullied all these advantages. His spirits were often stretched to extravagance to overpower competition. His humour was debased into buffoonery; and his wit was so prostituted to the lust of applause, that he would sacrifice his best

friend for a scurvy jest ; and wound the heart of him, whom he would at that very moment hazard his life and fortune to serve, only to raise a laugh ; in which he was also assisted by a peculiar archness of disposition and an unlucky expertness at carrying his *jest*s into practice, as he proved upon this occasion.

Though he disdained to decline the late competition, as the others did, he had been well aware that my master's higher rank in life would carry the point in dispute against him ; for which injustice he resolved to revenge himself in the most signal manner.

For this purpose he had contrived the night before to bring into his cell a great *Baboon* which he had provided for the occasion. When the brotherhood retired to their cells after dinner, as I have told you, to prepare for the ceremony, he availed himself of the office of keeper of the chapel, which he then filled, to convey this creature, dressed up in the phantastic garb, in which childish imagination cloath devils, into the chapel, where he shut him up in a large chest, that stood there to hold the ornaments, and utensils of the table, when the society was away. To the spring of the lock of this chest he fastened a cord, which he drew under the carpet that was on the floor to his own seat, and there brought the end of it through a hole, made for the purpose, in such a manner that he could readily find it ; and by giving it a pull, open the chest, and let the *Baboon* loose, whenever he pleased, without being perceived by any of the rest of the company.

Accordingly, when they were all in the height of their mirth, on my master's kneeling down, and with hands and eyes raised towards Heaven repeating an invocation, in the perverted phrase of Holy Writ, to the Being whom they served to come among them, and receive their adorations in person, he pulled the

cord, and let the animal loose, who glad to be delivered from his confinement, gave a sudden spring upon the middle of the table.

The effect, which the sight of such a visiter had upon them, may be better conceived than expressed. Their attention had been so fixed upon what my master was saying, that they perceived not from whence he came; and his appearing so critically at the invocation, and in such a shape, made them conclude he was *the Being invoked*.

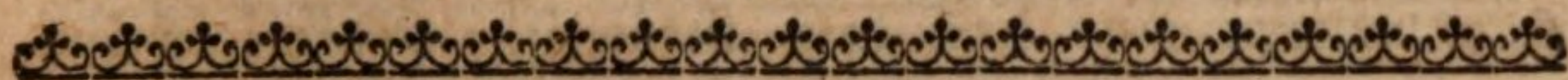
Terrified out of their senses by this thought, they all roared out with one voice, *The Devil! The Devil!* and starting from their seats made directly toward the door, tumbling over one another, and over-setting every thing in their way.

In the height of this uproar and confusion, *the Baboon* frightened at the effects of their fear, happened to leap upon my master's shoulders, as he lay sprawling on the floor, who turning about his head and feeling the shock, saw the animal grinning horribly at him, and concluded the Devil had obeyed his summons in good earnest, and come to carry him bodily away.

Driven as he was to despair by this thought, he strove however, in the instinctive impulse of self-preservation, to shake off the invader: but he, instead of losing his hold, on his repeated efforts, only clung to him the closer, clasping his paws around his neck, and chattering with spight at his ear. This compleated the caitiff's distress. Every shadow of spirit failed him, and conscious guilt suggesting to him the meaning of this unintelligible jargon, he attempted in the blindness of his fear to move the very Devil to pity, by his pathetic wailings, and supplications.

“ Spare me, gracious Devil!” (said he) “ spare

“ a wretch, who never was sincerely your servant!
“ I sinned only from vanity of being in the fashion!
“ thou knowest I never have been half so wicked as
“ I pretended; I never have been able to commit
“ the thousandth part of the vices, which I have
“ boasted of. Take not then the advantage of that
“ vanity; but judge me only from my actions. I
“ knew not that thou wouldst have come, or I should
“ never have invoked thee! leave me therefore, and
“ go to those, who are more truly devoted to thy
“ service. I am but half a sinner. My conscience
“ always flew in my face when I committed any
“ crime! my heart gave the lie to my tongue,
“ when I gloried in my vices; and I trembled at
“ the damnation I affected to brave! O spare
“ me therefore, at least for this time, till I have
“ served thee better. I am as yet but half a sinner.”



C H A P. XIX.

The DEVIL is degraded to a BABOON, and his appearance well accounted for, which restores the mirth and courage of the company, and particularly of CHRYSAL's master, who exerts himself to recover his character. The appearance of the be-deviled BABOON is traced next day to his introducer, who, at the instance of CHRYSAL's master is expelled the society for presuming to ridicule their rights. Farther consequences of this affair make the superior break up his monastery, and build a church.

WHILE my master was making this essay of his eloquence upon the *Baboon*, the person who had brought him there took the opportunity of the consternation the whole company was in, to open one of the windows unperceived by them for the animal to make his escape, which he no sooner saw, than he made directly to it, giving my master an happy release.

Before he could get clear off though, one of the company, who was bolder than the rest, having mustered resolution to raise his head, got a full view of him, and perceiving what he was, just as my master concluded his supplication, “Your prayers
“are heard!” (said he, starting up and speaking as soon as a burst of laughter gave him utterance)
“your prayers are heard for this time; and that
“Devil of a great *He-baboon*, that’s just gone out of

“ the window, despising *half a sinner*, has spared you
“ till you are fitter for his service.”—

At hearing these words, they all arose from the floor, where they had lain sprawling on top of one another, and looking in amazement, at him who had spoke to them; “ Courage, my friends!” (said he)
“ this is but a false alarm! our *master* is not so ready
“ to come for us when we call him, or we should
“ none of us all be here now. How a *Baboon* though
“ should come here to scar us out of our little wits
“ in such a manner, the Devil may tell you, if he
“ will, for I cannot; but I’ll swear I saw one go out
“ of that window.”—

“ And I’ll swear too, that I saw him come in at it;
(replied the author of the mischief, who saw no way to escape detection, but by preventing farther enquiry by this bold lie) “ as I just then happened to look
“ about to see from whence the wind came, that blew
“ upon my poll.”—

This eclclaircissement satisfied them all! they instantly set the room to rights, and plastering up their broken shins and noses, sat down to conclude their carousal, resuming their former strain, in which they all exerted themselves in an uncommon manner, to wipe off the disgrace of their late *squeaking*, particularly my master who *out-did his usual out-doing*, in profaneness, blasphemy, and wickedness of every kind, to recover his character, and to convince them he was more than *half a sinner*.

They held in this hand, till nature sunk under the fatigue, when they retired to sleep off their debauch, in their *cells*; where, as I said, proper provision had been made for them, to reduce the theory of the day into practice, in the intervals of rest.

Though the affair of the *Baboon* had passed of so cleverly, while their spirits were in such a flurry,

when they came to enquire more coolly into it next day, the whole trick came out. It had been impossible to convey him into the monastery, without the privity of some of the servants, who had all so often *felt the jests* of this gentleman, that they were glad of an opportunity of being revenged upon him now, by making the discovery.

This account, confirmed by some circumstances in his behaviour, which they had not attended to at the time, plainly pointing out the guilty person, the superiors adjourning directly to the chapel to consult how they should proceed on so delicate an occasion. For though they had always highly approved of such *wit*, when *practised* upon others, they looked upon the application of it to themselves in the most heinous light, especially in such an instance as this, the consequences of which had exposed them to the contempt of each other, by detecting their *weakness*, and shewing that the guilt in which they gloried was only feigned.

Mortifying as this was to their vanity, the thought however, that the case was general, afforded them some consolation. However to remedy the effect of this, and prevent a repetition of the like disgrace, it was proposed, after mature deliberation, and much learned argument on the question, to bury what was past, by a solemn act of amnesty, and make a special law, whose observation should be enforced *by an oath*, that no member should ever after presume to attempt exercising his wit upon the society, in any manner, or by any means whatsoever; on taking which oath, and asking pardon upon his knees, at the door of the chapel, the offender should be forgiven.

To this proposal they all assented, except my master, who for private reasons thought the latter part of it much too mild for so flagrant a crime. He had

long cherished a secret grudge against the other, who not only often pointed his wit against him, in a manner that he could not digest nor knew how to resent, it being as polite as it was keen, but also put him constantly to the expence of double wickedness, the only qualification in which he could possibly shine, to avoid being totally eclipsed by him: His desire of revenge also was strongest on this occasion, as he had suffered the deepest disgrace.

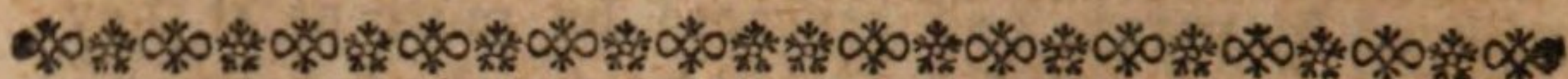
Accordingly he exerted all his eloquence, to shew *the enormity of the crime of attempting to turn any of the rites and ceremonies established by the laws of the society into ridicule*; the letting of which escape without adequate punishment, he said, would argue weakness and want of spirit in them, and must end in the ruin of their authority; for which weighty reasons he proposed that the offender should be directly expelled the society in form, as the only effectual way to vindicate their dignity, and prevent others from offering it the like insult for the future.

This gave the affair a new turn. They all took fire at the thought of their dignity's being insulted, and expelled him that moment, without even waiting to hear him in his own defence. But he soon had the satisfaction of seeing himself amply avenged.

The care they took to keep every thing they did secret, had long awoke the curiosity of the neighbourhood, who were the more severe in their guesses, the less able they were to guess right. But the affair of the *Baboon*, whom the servants got sight of, before he could be caught, and whether misled by his dress, or misrepresenting by design, gave out to be *the Devil*, was no sooner known, than a formal story was propagated over the whole country, that the end of their meeting was to worship the Devil, to whom this chapel was dedicated, and who had *often* been seen among them in variety of shapes.

Scandal always meets easy credit. The story was believed by many, and repeated by more as if they believed it, never losing any thing in the repetition; till such an universal alarm was raised among the people (who are content to infringe the precepts of Religion, without denying its authority) that the superior, whose seat was in the neighbourhood, found it necessary to dissolve the society, and effacing every trace of it, convert the building to the better use of a pleasure house, in which he entertained all his neighbours in general, whenever he was in the country: Beside which, he also built a church, on an eminence near his house, that answered the double purpose, of convincing the populace of his regard to Religion, and of making a beautiful termination, to a vista which he had just cut through a wood, in his park.

I have anticipated these circumstances to satisfy your curiosity; as I have also omitted many, and softened more particulars in this account, which were too horrid to have been represented in their proper colours.



C H A P. XX.

A further account of the rules of the convent ; with some striking instances of œconomy. A seeming inconsistency accounted for, from a principle not sufficiently understood. Some remarkable effects of vanity. Reason of the abuse of wealth.

YOU are astonished how such scenes of debauchery and excess could be supported, either by the fortune of the entertainer, or the constitutions of his guests ; but this shall be explained.

To prevent satiety or fatigues, these meetings were never protracted beyond a week at a time ; nor held oftner than twice in a year ; by which frugality of pleasure, they were always returned to, with the keenness of novelty : And as for the expence of them, that was defrayed jointly by the whole community ; (the superior contributing nothing more, than any other member, except the first cost of building the convent, which he thought himself amply recompensed for, by the honour of having struck out the plan ;) and regulated by the strictest œconomy ; the slaves of their lusts being sent back to the brothels, from whence they had been brought ; and the servants of their luxury discharged, at the end of every meeting ; and no more retained for the rest of the year, than an old man and woman who took care of the place.

To you who have supported the dignity of your nature, by preferring the pleasures of that reason, which was given to distinguish man from brutes, to those of sense, which they enjoy in common with him, the

picture of this whole scene must appear *over-charged*, and irreconcilable with the great principles of human action, which always propose some *good*, either present or future, however the judgment may err in the thing proposed. But more acquaintance with life would solve this difficulty to you.

The general motive for attempting to turn Religion into ridicule has been already explained. But as some are seen to give into this practice, who seem to cultivate their reason with most success; and whose actions, and even inclinations appear not to have the remotest tendency contrary to moral virtue, it may be proper to account for such an exception.

The first principle of action, impressed by nature on every thing that lives, is *self-preservation*. From this *brute* animals, which *by necessity* proceed regularly in the course prescribed for them, never swerve: But the *rational* animal, man, bewildered in his own imaginations, by the abuse of that *liberty*, which was given him to enhance the merit of his obedience to the dictates of *reason*, often substitutes another in its place, by whose impulse he acts in direct opposition to it.

This is *vanity*; the real source of that ambition, which courts danger, and plunges with open eyes into destruction, however speciously it may be disguised under the pompous titles of love of glory, and regard to the public good, as well as of most of the extravagancies, and absurdities, which puzzle superficial observers, and make them presumptuously impeach as a defect in the work of nature, their own neglect and perversion of its laws.

A particular enquiry into the effects of this *suppositious* principle, many of which, as I said, are blazoned as the brightest virtues, while more are acknowledged to be the most atrocious crimes; or how nearly such.

virtues and crimes, proceeding thus from the same source, may be allied, though curious and interesting in itself, is not necessary here. It is sufficient to observe, that its power is able to break the force of habit, reconcile contradictions, and confound the essential difference of things; to cope with *prejudice*, and over-rule the *infirmities* of nature.

This it is, for instance, that makes the *constitutional* coward, who trembles at the thought of danger, and would see his country ruined, rather than draw his sword in its defence, *fight duels* for a doubtful punctilio of empty ceremony; the *superstitious* wretch, who finds *omens*, in *spilled salt*, and *crossed straws*, and *see Goblins* and *Devils* in the dark, profess infidelity, ridicule Providence, and dare the wrath of Heaven, by insults and bravadoes; and lastly, this it is, that makes the hoary Sage, whose life has been regulated by the strictest principles of morality and religion, while passion might have rebelled against them, commence Libertine in the impotence of old age, and glory in vices he has lost the power to practise. Of the justice of these remarks the members of this society, of which vanity was the cement, as it hath been the origin, afforded the most glaring proofs.

You wonder what there could be to be vain of, in such an association! but you do not reflect, that vanity is never the result of real worth. The false glare of public estimation reflects it from the vilest and most reproachful objects.

The institutor of this society, was *admired* for every polite accomplishment, every power of pleasing in conversation; and the first set he chose were all of the same cast. This with their rank and fortunes, and above all, the mystery of the institution, which set curiosity on fire, and gave imagination room to form the most flattering ideas of it, made admission

into it, an object of universal ambition, as it seemed a proof of every member's meriting the same character; and when once admitted, a vicious fear of ridicule made too many ashamed to quit it; and even they, who did, were precluded from discovering any thing that might deter others, by the secrecy to which they were sworn.

There is one thing more which, from the particular circumstances of your own life affects you more than any other, in this account. This is the folly and ingratitude of lavishing the blessing of wealth to the dishonour of the donor; and with so little regard to its real use. But this, as has been the case in other instances, proceeds from want of better acquaintance with life.

It has been remarked by travellers, that in those parts of the earth, where the blessings of nature are bestowed with greatest liberality, the people seem least sensible of them; and are sunk in the grossest vice; as if reason and virtue were incompatible with the good things of this world.

The reason of this remark holds with respect to wealth in other countries. Provided to profusion with every thing they want, the rich look no farther than to the gratification of their appetites and passions; as the means to procure which are in their possession, they acknowledge no obligation to the power, which first gave, and still preserves the enjoyment of them; but on the contrary, affect to shew their independance, by prostituting it to purposes, directly contrary to his declared pleasure; and this causes that abuse of wealth, which generally mars the blessing, and makes the gift of it so dangerous.



C H A P. XXI.

Account of the members of the society. The history of the superior. The particular qualifications by which he arose in life. Success in a private instance encourages him to try his talents, in a higher sphere, from which he soon descends with disgrace. A striking inconsistency in his character.

I SEE you desire to have some account of the several members of so extraordinary a society. When the great lines which distinguish the characters of mankind are marked by virtues, or even by superior abilities, that dazzle superficial observation, by the splendor of their effects, and pass for such, however different in the tendency of their exertions; the delineation affords pleasure; but on the contrary where those lines are all distorted by vice and folly; and distinguished from each other only by different modes and degrees of them, the contemplation is a pain; and to paint them a task so disagreeable, that nothing but an impartial regard to truth could make it be undertaken. However your curiosity shall be gratified.

As the *convent* was dedicated to pleasure; you may imagine that play made a part of their entertainment. Contrary indeed to the scheme of all other parties of pleasure, it was not the first object of their meeting; and only served to fill up the intervals between other pleasures, which nature without some respite could not support in such excess. The circulation however, even in this *piddling* for mere amusement, gave me an opportunity of taking a view of all their

characters; such of which as contained any thing worthy of your notice for you must not expect it from them all, I will give you some general sketches of.

As the looks of a man are generally a comment on his heart, I will place the whole company in your view, as I have done on other occasions, to assist you in forming a proper notion of their characters. At the head of the table sits the superior. You see every eye is expressively fixed upon him, in admiration at the vivacity, humour, and wit on all he says, while by an art peculiarly happy, he alone seems unconscious of his own pre-eminence.

These talents, which from the intoxication of present applause, are much oftner of prejudice than advantage to the possessor, by diverting from more solid pursuits, proved the foundation of his exalted rank and fortune; because always directed by the deepest and most delicate address.

The first instance, in which this address was displayed, was in his own family. He had a distant relation who had spent his youth in such busy scenes, as left not time for his imagination to wander in search of amusement. To a mind accustomed to be wound up to such a pitch, the charms of a conversation like his were relaxation, irresistibly engaging. He insinuated himself insensibly into his favour, and by seeming to have nothing in view, but his pleasure, led him as he pleased himself, not only into all the lengths of his own libertinism, so as to be a member of this society, when the decline of life, at least, should have suggested more serious thoughts; but also at his death to reward his complaisance with a much larger portion of his fortune, than he had any claim to from consanguinity or the preference of reason.

Such success encouraged his ambition to higher attempts. Introduced by the same qualifications to the

acquaintance of *the great*, he not only gained their favour by them, but also imposed them upon them for abilities of an higher class so far, that being secure of his subserviency to their designs, they admitted him to a share of their power.

But in this he had deceived himself as well as them, as he found to their disappointment and his own extreme confusion, upon the very first trial of his political talents, when he shewed in the strongest light the difference between the abilities requisite to raise a laugh, and rule a nation.

He had sense enough however to see his mistake, before it had involved him in any consequences, from which he could not recede without danger as well as disgrace; and prudently sacrificing his ambition to his safety, he turned off all with a laugh, and returned to the enjoyment of those pleasures for which nature seemed to have so particularly designed him. Whether that enjoyment is as sincere and undisturbed though, as should appear from his looks and conduct, is a point not so certain, as you may be apt to imagine.

The principles, on which this society was originally instituted, and from which it has never deviated, *the professed ridicule of moral Virtue and Religion*, should seem to have proceeded from an utter disbelief of a Deity; or at least, a fearless defiance of his power; but contrary to this, there starts not at his own shadow a more abject slave to superstition and all its foolish fears, than he was at the time of instituting it, and still remains.

Such an inconsistency requires explanation to you, whose notions of life are formed solely from rational speculation.

C H A P. XXII.

Continuation of the history of the superior. The inconsistency in his character accounted for. The reason of his being sent early to travel for education. Political principles all necessary to be attended to, in a tutor. The method and effect of his tutor's care to instruct him in Religion. A frightful story gives rise to a frightful dream, which is interrupted still more frightfully. A tremendous apparition terrifies him into a swoon. Account of an apparition.

THE political principles of his family being in avow'd opposition to their Sovereign, the earliest care was taken to instil the same into him; and the ripeness of his parts and genius flattered them with a promise of his future consequence in the state.

For this purpose, before reason should have time to be convinced by experience of the injustice, and danger of such designs, he was sent abroad to be educated in a country, where every object should concur to prejudice him against the laws and constitution of his own, and the opportunity of personal intercourse confirm his attachment to him, whose interest he was intended to promote.

The public conduct of his life has sufficiently shewn the success of this scheme: as an incidental circumstance in the execution of it will also account for the inconsistencies in his private character.

The religious principles established in the country,

whither he was thus sent for education ; and the political ones, it was designed he should assist to establish at home, were so intimately and essentially connected, that it was impossible to find a tutor for him sufficiently attached to the latter, to answer the purpose of his family, who was not also at least secretly inclined to, even if he did not only profess, the former.

But this made no difficulty. Religion is in reality the thing least thought of, however pompously it may be professed in political schemes. They scrupled not therefore to commit his tender mind to the influence of such an one, regardless what impressions he might make upon it, beside those they desired : An opportunity which he did not fail to take advantage of.

Accordingly as soon as the tutor and his pupil were settled in the place of their designation, the former began his design, by displaying on every occasion the excellence and importance of the ceremonies and rites of the Religion professed there, as the objects most likely to strike the levity of youth, always complaining with a contemptuous concern of the want of such in that of his own country ; not chusing to speak more directly at first, for fear of giving him any alarm.

But artful as this method was, he had the disappointment to see, it did not succeed so well as he could wish. Though from the manner of his pupil's earliest education, it was easy enough to sink his own Religion in his opinion, yet some circumstances rendered the raising of any other in its place, a matter of more difficulty, than might have been obviously apprehended. His natural turn and quickness of ridicule made him see every thing in the most disadvantageous light, at the first glance, at the same time that his dissipation and levity prevented his at-

tending to the abstruser arguments, often necessary to establish the credit of matters of such importance beyond the reach of rational doubt; so that all the pains his tutor was piously taking to enlarge his faith, threatened to work the contrary effect, of making him an infidel.

Alarmed at this, the tutor, whose biggotted credulity had swallowed every fiction of superstition, had always some miraculous story of a *judgment* or *apparition* ready to refute the scoffs of his pupil, and confirm the truth of whatever he himself advanced. The constant repetition of such tales, which he plainly showed his own belief of, insensibly made such an impression on his pupil's imagination, as persuaded him of their possibility at least, if he was not absolutely convinced of the truth of every thing in proof of which they were alledged; and filled him with fears, for which a good foundation had before been laid in the nursery.

When his mind was thus prepared to catch at every terror, his tutor took him one day to see the exhibition of one of those miracles, which are said to be wrought at the shrine of a contested saint; and which really weaken the credit of the Religion, they were devised to support.

The absurdity was too striking to escape his observation. He turned it into the most poignant ridicule, in spite of all his tutor's pains to defend it; who finding that his arguments had no effect, had recourse to his usual proof of an *apparition*, which he dressed up in every colour and circumstance of horror, to make it have the greater weight.

His pupil took not more than usual notice of the matter, while light and company diverted his thoughts; but when he went to bed, and found himself alone, and in the dark, the whole flashed upon him in all

its terrors, heightened in every instance, by the liveliness of his own imagination.

What he felt in such a situation may easier be conceived than expressed. He covered up his head with the cloaths; and lay sweating and trembling, till his mind was wearied with dwelling on the same thoughts, and he sunk into a kind of slumber.

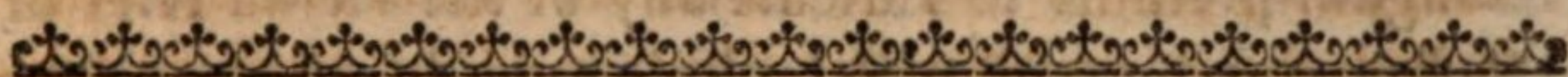
But this was far from giving him relief. He was no sooner asleep, than imagination, now in her own empire, placed him, in the midst of the scene, which had just before been so elaborately described to him, by his tutor, from the contemplation of which he was delivered only to suffer still more severely; being awakened by sounds uncouth enough to startle, at such a time, the most resolute mind unacquainted with them.

Such a continuation realized all the horrors of his dream. He started up; and turning in the instinctive curiosity of affright to that part of the room, from whence the sounds still continued to come, saw four glaring eye-balls fixed upon him, at the same time that a voice distinctly articulated, but in a tremendous tone, and language which he did not understand, thundered directly in his ear.

The darkness, which prevented his seeing the bodies, to which those eyes belonged, and his ignorance of the import of the sounds, only added to his fright by giving room to imagination, not only to form the most horrible conceptions of them, but also to apprehend them still more horrible than he could conceive. He was not able to support such an attack; but giving one helpless shriek, sunk back in a swoon.

His tutor, who lay in the next room, and had been awakend by the same sounds, but was not so much terrified at them, both because his mind was not so well prepared for terrors, and that he was acquaint-

ed with their cause, heard him shriek, and knowing his voice, ran to him, imagining he was engaged in a conflict, in which he might want assistance, with the *cats*, which he heard in his room; for from two of those animals, which finding the window open, had chosen it for the scene of their amours, had those dreadful sounds proceeded.



C H A P. XXIII.

Continuation. Behaviour of the tutor on finding his pupil in a swoon. He recovers; and terrifies his tutor by mistaking him for a saint. Charity begins at home. The tutor sagaciously guesses at the meaning of the mistake; and piously resolves to improve it. The pupil's full and true account of the apparition, with the tutor's honest addition to it. His repentance, and conversion. His tutor moderates his zeal for weighty reasons. He relapses; and his tutor for private reasons divulges the whole affair. The method he took to invalidate the story.

YOU may judge how he was affected at seeing the person, upon whom all his hopes of wealth and preferment were founded, in such a situation. Awkward at the best, he now knew not how to attempt giving him any assistance, nor had even the presence of mind to call any one who could, so great was his embarrassment and confusion. Nature however soon delivered him from his distress, and restored his hopes, by the recovery of his pupil.

As soon as he came a little to himself, he stared wildly round him for some moments, and then fixing his eyes upon his tutor, who still stood gaping in amazement at him, he mistook him, from his being in his shirt, for the Saint that ran in his head, his imagination still continuing the former scene, and holding up his hands in a suppliant posture, as he lay trembling on his back, O mercy, gracious Saint!" (said he) "Have mercy on my youth! never will I again presume to ridicule any of the sacred rites of Religion! never will I admit a doubt of any thing it commands me to believe! O mercy! mercy."—Saying which words he fainted away again.

This address, one word of which the tutor did not understand, threw him into a fright almost as great as that of his pupil. He stood for some time stupified by astonishment, till the cold reminding him that he was in his shirt, care for his own health conquered every other concern, and made him go to put on his cloaths before he attempted to do any thing for the other.

While he was dressing himself, he considered what his pupil had said, with rather more attention than his fear had permitted before, and recollecting the subject of their conversation the preceding evening, concluded that Heaven had made use of some supernatural means to subdue his infidelity, the impression of which remaining still upon his mind, had occasioned his mistaking him in the manner he did, for a Saint; (for that he should be terrified to that degree by the screaming of the cats, never came into his head) and piously resolved to contribute his assistance to the deception, by taking no notice that he had been with him before, or even denying it, if he saw occasion.

With this intention, he returned to his pupil, de-

terminated though not to disclose his suspicion, till the other should make some discovery to direct him more certainly how to proceed.

His pupil, who was just come to himself, knew him directly now he was dressed, and catching his hand eagerly as soon as he came within his reach, “O my
“dearest, my best friend!” (said he pressing it to his lips) “What have I suffered since I saw you? How
“dearly have I paid for the profaneness, and infidelity of which you have so often reproved me, with
“pious and paternal care. But never will I be guilty
“of the like again. I resign myself implicitly to
“your direction; and will from this hour believe
“every thing you require me.”——

His tutor, after giving him some spiritual comfort, and encouraging his perseverance in this pious resolution, desired to know what had been the happy occasion of it, to which the other answered, that *some little time after he went to bed, the room was suddenly enlightened in a manner not to be described, when the apparition, of which he had given him an account the evening before, stood before him wrapped in blue flames, and breathing smoke and sulphur; and calling to him in a voice that appalled his soul, denounced Heaven's vengeance against his infidelity, which he was just going to put in execution, when the holy Saint, whose miracles he had so impiously turned into ridicule, appeared all robed in white, and circled round with glory; and interposing between him, and the spectre, the latter gave a shriek that shook the room, and then vanished in a flame of fire; upon which the Saint turned to him with a look ineffably benign, and exhorting him to repentance, gave him his benediction, and disappeared.*

Ready as his tutor was to believe every thing, that exceeded belief, when alledged in the cause of Religion, the circumstance of his own having been mis-

taken for a Saint, staggered his faith in all the rest, and made him for once justly conclude that the whole miracle was no more than a fiction of that fear with which the screaming of the cats struck him in his sleep, for he now plainly traced the effects of their voices.

However, far from undeceiving him, he improved upon the thought; and as soon as his pupil concluded his tale, with a grave face and solemn air added a sequel to it, of equal truth, but dictated by a very different degree of veracity; the former being deceived himself, and having eked out the illusions of his fear, as distracted imagination suggested to him; whereas the latter aggravated those illusions, by untruths premeditatedly devised to confirm that deception.

He said, *that grieved at the danger with which an unhappy prejudice of education threatened the spiritual safety of one so dear to him, instead of lying down to rest, he had fallen upon his knees, and poured out his soul, in prayer and supplication, to Heaven, to enlighten his (pupil's) mind, and convince him of his errors, in which holy exercise he had continued ever since, till this moment, when in the impulse of a persuasion, which he now perceived to have been divinely inspired, that his prayers were heard, he came to satisfy himself of the reality of so miraculous an event, for which he begged him to join in returning immediate thanks to Heaven, and the blessed Saint, who had wrought it.*

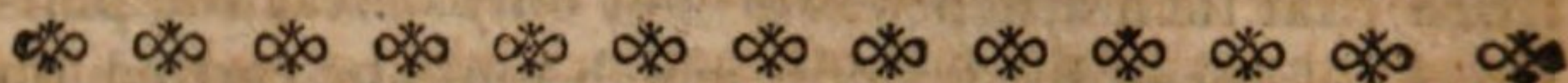
This compleated the deception of his pupil, so far as to make him believe the truth of some parts of his own tale, which he was not altogether so certain of before. He arose therefore, and reconciling himself to the faith of his tutor, by the strongest, and most full professions, dedicated the remainder of the night with him to prayer, and pious conversation.

In the first heat of his devotion, he was for making the whole affair public, and openly joining himself to

that Religion, whose truth was thus confirmed to him. But his tutor moderated the fervency of his zeal, sensible that such a step would not only defeat the political designs of his friends, which must be carried on under a masque, and in whose success his own wishes were most warmly interested? but also overturn his own hopes of being well rewarded for the care of his education, by a church living of great revenue, that was in the gift of one of his pupil's relations, who had promised it to him, as soon as the incumbent, then sinking under all the infirmities of extreme old age, should die: For his religious principles never interfered with his interest.

For these most weighty reasons, though, as you may imagine, he communicated only the former, he prevailed upon his convert to be content with the private practice, without the profession of his new faith, till he should in the fullness of time be so happy as to contribute his assistance to the great event, which should establish it in his own country.

Such an argument could not fail of effect, upon one who found the fervour of his devotion cool so fast, that in a few days the whole matter was entirely reversed, and his practice as libertine as ever, tho' fear of seeing any more spectres restrained his professions within more decent bounds. For so deeply was the dread of them imprinted on his mind, that to this day he dares not to sleep by himself, or be a moment alone in the dark: Though his tutor soon after his return home, divulged the whole affair, as far as it affected not himself, with **the** addition of many circumstances, if possible still **more** contemptibly ridiculous than the true, to revenge **his** procuring the living for one of his raking companions, and ingratiate himself with a particular enemy of his, from whom he expected a recompence for so pleasing a piece of scandal; to



C H A P. XXIV.

Account of the members continued. History of one who turned libertine, in speculation, after he had lost the power of being so in practice. How this happened; the force of literary vanity; and the reason why it is stronger than any other. Instances of the advantages reaped from encouraging genius. A new method of flattery is successful where all others had failed, and by a master-stroke makes vanity gain a signal triumph over virtue.

AT the right hand of the superior you see one, whose example should be a warning to mankind never to be off their guard against the allurements of vice, while there is any possibility, however remote and improbable, of their falling into it.

While youth might have been pleaded in excuse of passion; and the busy application of manhood extenuated any speculative errors in opinion, his conduct had been regulated by the strictest regard to the principles of moral virtue, and the precepts of Religion. But in the evening of his days, when all that heat and hurry give place to cool reflection, and the serenity of the prospect more than compensates for its approaching close, the whole scene was wretchedly reversed, and his setting sun over-cast, with a cloud of vices most blameable in any stage of life, but aggravated ten thousand-fold in his, to which they were unnatural.

I have told you before, that vanity was the cause of a fall, so reproachful to humanity: The manner though of its operating upon one, who seemed to be

removed so far beyond its reach is worthy of attention.

In no instance is the power of vanity so tyrannically exerted over the human heart, as when it arises from an opinion of literary merit. The reason is obvious. Real learning is the most effectual check to vanity, as it shews the instability of its foundation. When therefore any thing that makes pretence, however falsely, to that name, seems to administer to its support, it instantly looks upon itself as above controul.

Though early engagement in the activer scenes of his country's service had prevented his making any great proficiency in the more abstruse pursuits of speculation, his natural inclination to them, directed by a taste formed by the best education, made him embrace all opportunities of patronizing every advance in science, and improvement in the finer arts.

The liberality with which he indulged this inclination soon marked him out to the attacks of every needy adventurer in the trade of letters. Projectors consulted him on their schemes. Poets submitted their works to his correction. His virtues, among which munificence was never forgot, were the inexhausted theme of panegyric; and dedications declared to the world his abilities, and knowledge.

Adulation so gross was an affront to reason. He rejected with just contempt the praises to which he knew himself not entitled; and was superior to the flattery, which compassion for the flatterer often made him seem to pay for. Happy had he always preserved the same delicacy!

Among the crouds of parasites, who lay in wait thus for his favour, was a person, whom idleness seduced to prefer this abject state of dependance to the pursuit of a liberal profession, which he had been bred to: A baseness aggravated by his possessing every

qualification necessary to have made him eminent in any state.

This man, who had thoroughly studied the human heart, soon saw that any direct attack upon his patron would prove ineffectual. He therefore struck out a new scheme, the depth of which secur'd it from detection, though at the same time, the difficulty of carrying it into execution would have discouraged any one, less anxious for success, and confident of his own abilities. He disguised the strongest flattery under masque of the most cynical bluntness, and candour, and instead of praising all he did, and echoing in assent every word he spoke, he missed no occasion of differing in opinion with him, declaring he thought that being, who could debase the dignity of his nature so far as to give up his judgment to another, from any other motive than rational conviction, unworthy of the name of man.

A behaviour so singular, necessarily attracted the notice of his patron, as the manner in which it was carried on, soon won his favour: For in all the debates of any moment, which this champion for liberty of thought held with him, he managed with such delicate art, as to lead him (his patron) to confute him, though frequently contrary to the opinion, with which he had originally set out: In trifles indeed, where being foiled could reflect no disgrace, he proceeded not with that caution, but often gained a victory, for which he laughed at himself when it was won.

But with others he observed not such moderation. Be the subject what it would, he exerted all his powers, (and great as I have said they were) till he silenced at least, if he could not convince his adversary, over whom he then triumphed in all the insolence of superiority.

Such a method could not fail of success! his patron

sure of coming off with honour, fought every opportunity of entering to debate with him, and contracted an esteem for one who as he thought had thus discovered to him his own abilities, while every one else declined entering into a contest, which always involved them in disgrace.

Encouraged by this success, he boldly ventured upon a stroke, the event of which was to decide his hopes. In gratification to his own depraved taste, he had written a treatise in which the grossest libertinism was set in so advantageous and alluring a light, and the arguments against it evaded with so much plausibility and true wit, as were almost sufficient to put virtue out of countenance. and debauch its sincerest votaries.

The contradiction between such principles, and the practice of his patron, through his whole life, would have deterred any one less enterprizing, and experienced in the weaknesses of human nature, from disclosing them; but he had lately made some discoveries, which emboldened him even to push his designs much farther, than owning himself the author of that book.

While the vigour of life had enabled his patron to persist in busier pursuits, he had despised the flattery paid to his literary merit; but as soon as the infirmities of age rendered him unfit for such employment, he with a natural partiality gave the preference to that preheminance, which he thought still within his reach, and affected to slight all fame, that was not founded on the nobler labours of the mind.

This was a sufficient direction to the parasite. He immediately shewed his book with a mysterious air, to several of his patron's friends, giving them broad hints at the same time, but under the seal of secrecy, that he was the author of it. There is no way so effectual as this to spread any story. One whispered it

to another, till in a few days, the whole town was in the secret.

The hints, and illusions which were every hour thrown out to the patron, on this occasion, perplexed him not a little, as he knew not what they meant. A secret though in the possession of so many could not possibly remain long such to him. One of his acquaintances provoked at the seeming affectation of his not understanding his hints, told him the whole affair.

Much as he was surprised at the account, vanity would not let him suppress it by a direct negative, as the book was mentioned in terms of the highest praise. He answered with the coy evasions of modesty, the most effectual affirmation, and shifted off any farther discussion of the subject, till he should be better informed.

Accordingly the moment his friend left him, he sent for the author of the report, and charging him with it, desired to see the performance which he had done him the honour to father upon him.

The parasite, who took his cue from the looks of his patron, was far from denying the charge. He presented him the book without hesitation, saying with his usual bluntness, that if it was not actually written by him, it was literally written from him, being nothing but what he had frequently said on those subjects; and therefore might without any injustice be asserted to be his.

The advantageous manner in which the patron had heard the book spoken of prevented his making any reply till he should have read it, when he was so struck with the various beauties of it, that vanity subdued all his virtue, and deprived him of the power of denying it. “If the sentiments are mine!” (said he, blushing at his own baseness, as he spoke) “I am obliged to you for placing them in so advantageous

“ a light ; and think I ought to decline sharing in an
“ honour, so much of which belongs to another.”—

Such a repulse was no way discouraging. The parasite repeated his assertion that the whole was genuinely his, both in words and sentiments, as indeed he knew not any other, whose they could be ; and insisting that he had no more merit in the affair, than barely that of writing them down, a liberty for which he begged pardon, appealed to his former conduct to acquit him of so mean a piece of flattery, as giving to another the honour of a work which had not its equal.

It is not difficult to persuade a willing mind. The patron could no longer deny what was so clearly proved ; and what his own conscience bore testimony to, against his false modesty. All that remained was to act in such a manner, that his practice should not contradict this declaration of his principles ; and so raise a doubt of their authenticity.

But after having made the first step, he found no difficulty in this. He directly changed the whole tenour of his life. He laughed at morality, ridiculed Religion ; and professed vices he was unable to practice : And lastly to compleat his character procured admission into this society, which, as I said, was the proof of every polite accomplishment and qualification ; where he nods, as you see, over the grave, as insensible to the mirth, and pleasures, enjoyed by his companions, as of the despicableness and danger of his own situation.

As for his parasite, his end was gained. From that moment he commanded him as he pleased, sharing in the enjoyment of his fortune while he lived ; and sure of such a portion of it, if he survived him, as should sufficiently supply his appetites, the only use for which he desired a fortune.

End of the THIRD VOLUME.

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Johnstone, Charles, 1719-1800

Chrysal: Or, The Adventures Of A Guinea. Wherein Are Exhibited Views of several striking Scenes With Curious and interesting Anecdotes of the most Noted Persons in every rank of Life, whole hands it passed through, In America, England, Holland, Germany And Portugal
Bd.: 3

London (1775)

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